Daily Report

Near East & South Asia

FBIS-NES-87-228
Friday
27 November 1987

Daily Report
Near East & South Asia

FBIS-NES-87-228 *27 November 1987*

CONTENTS

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

27 November Middle East and South Asia Review 1

INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

Inter-Arab Affairs

Saudi Arabia To Host 'Quadripartite Summit' *[Kuwait AL-RAY AL-'AMM 24 Nov]* 3
Syria Promised Gulf Aid Totaling $4 Billion *[London AL-TADAMUN 21 Nov]* 3

Palestinian Affairs

PFLP-GC Claims Qiryat Shemona Operation *[Radio Monte Carlo]* 3
Communique on Glider Operation *[Radio Monte Carlo]* 3
Further on Operation *[Voice of the Mountain]* 4
Over 20 Casualties Claimed *[Radio Monte Carlo]* 4
Communique Reports Attacks in Hebron, Gaza *[Voice of the PLO]* 4
'Arafat on Relations With Jordan, Syria *[Jeddah 'UKAZ 21 Nov]* 5
PNC Speaker Interviewed on Amman Summit *[London AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT 22 Nov]* 5
Al-Wazir Notes No Change in Tunis Relations *[London AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT 25 Nov]* 6

ARAB AFRICA

Algeria

Tunisian Prime Minister Received by Bendjedid 8
Summarizes Talks 8
Concludes Visit, Departs 8

Chad

Acheikh ibn Oumar Group Claims Koulbous Action *[Paris]* 8
FANT Claims Right of Pursuit 8
Lassou on OAU, UN Roles in Libya Conflict 9

Egypt

Assembly Official Interviewed on Amman Summit *[London AL-MAJALLAH 18-24 Nov]* 9
PNC Speaker Makes Statement, Departs 25 Nov 10
Shamir Rejection of Peace Conference Assailed 11
Paper Lauds 'Boldness' of Glider Pilot *[AL-JUMHURIYAH 27 Nov]* 12
Ghali Welcomes U.S.-USSR Disarmament Accord 12
Japanese Deputy Foreign Minister Pays Visit 12
Holds Talks 12
Meets 'Abd al-Majid 12
Departs 26 Nov 13
Sidqi To Chair Delegation to OAU Summit 13
Ghali Leaves for Addis Ababa 13
Mercenaries Reportedly Protecting Al-Qadhdhafi 13
Ghali Confers With Argentine Minister 25 Nov 13
Talks With EEC Delegation Conclude 14
Debt Rescheduling Accord Reached With FRG *[DPA]* 14
Minister, Finnish Envoy Discuss Economic Ties 14

Qatari Education Minister Arrives 25 Nov 14
Education Minister Discusses Reform Projects 14

Libya

Ndjamena 'Fabrications' on Border Clash Denied 14
VOA Report on Ties With Chicago 'Gang' Refuted 15
Al-Qadhdhafi Meets Egyptian Labor Party Leader 15

Sudan

Al-Ummah Party Announces General 'Mobilization' 15
Ba'th Party Supports Call 16
Libyan Envoy Denies Military Presence in Darfur *[AL-SUDANI 26 Nov]* 16
SPLA Denies Ethiopian, Cuban Role at Kurmuk *[Radio SPLA]* 16

Tunisia

Ammar Comments on Arms Seizures, Coup Arrests 16
Prime Minister Baccouche Departs for Algeria 18

Western Sahara

Information Ministry Announces 20-Day 'Truce' *[Algiers]* 18

ARABIAN PENINSULA

Inter-Gulf Affairs

Iranian Speedboat Attacks Romanian Tanker *[AFP]* 19

Kuwait

Paper on 'Heroic' Palestinian Glider Operation *[AL-QABAS 27 Nov]* 19
'Incendiary Material' Causes Fire Near Office 19

PDRY

Political Bureau Reviews Talks With YAR 19
Prisoner Release To Mark Independence Day 20

IRAQ

Spokesman Threatens Strikes Against Tehran 21
Reportage on Gulf War Combat Operations 21
'Very Large Maritime Target' Hit 21
Qal'at Dizah Shelled 21
Communique No 2,928 21
Communique No 2,929 22
Iranian Liberation Army Operations Reported 22
7 Battalions 'Destroyed' 22
1,500 Iranian Troops Killed 22
Oil Minister Returns From Saudi Arabia Visit 23
Electric Power To Be Exported to Turkey 23

Israel

6 IDF Soldiers Killed in 'Terrorist' Attack 24
IDF Announcement on Attack 24
IDF Reports Further Details 24
2d 'Terrorist', Glider Found 24
More on 2d Glider 24
2 Groups Claim Responsibility 24
'Abbas Denies Responsibility 24
Chief of Staff on Attack 25
Further Shomron Remarks 25
Rabin Comments on Attack 26
Shamir Promises Galilee Security 26
Shamir: Syria Behind Attack 26
Rabin on Importance of Iran, Iraq Contacts 27
Further Rabin Remarks *[MA'ARIV 26 Nov]* 27
Iraqi Envoy Denies Reports on Rapprochement *[THE JERUSALEM POST 26 Nov]* 27
U.S.-USSR Disarmament Accord Welcomed *[MA'ARIV 26 Nov]* 28
Shultz 'Indifference' Resented by Peres Office *[AL HAMISHMAR 26 Nov]* 28
USSR Said Ready To Examine Trade Ties *[MA'ARIV 26 Nov]* 28
'Sources' Reveal Sharon Visiting Hungary *[MA'ARIV 26 Nov]* 29
Peres Returns From UK, Comments on Talks *[HADASHOT 25 Nov]* 29
No Compromise on Tabah; Arbitration To Continue *[HADASHOT 25 Nov]* 29
AL-NAHAR Views Jordanian-Palestinian Ties *[25 Nov]* 29
Military Inquiry Into Security Prison Ordered *[THE JERUSALEM POST 25 Nov]* 30
SLA Soldier, 'Terrorist' Killed 26 Nov 30
Another SLA Soldier Killed 30

JORDAN

King Husayn Returns From Damascus Talks 31
Syria-Iraq Ties Discussed *[Abu Dhabi AL-ITTIHAD 26 Nov]* 31
Foreign Minister Outlines Nationalist Policy 31
Attack on Camp Seen as Rejection of Israel Stand *[AL-DUSTUR 27 Nov]* 32

LEBANON

French Hostages Reportedly To Be Released *[AFP]* 34
Further on Possible Release *[VOL]* 34
French Envoy Leaves Embassy *[VOL]* 34
Hostage Release 'Imminent' *[AFP]* 34
Hostages To Be Released 27 Nov *[AFP]* 35
Information Minister Skaf Tenders Resignation 35
Al-Huss Comments *[VOL]* 35
'Commando Unit' Attacks Israeli Settlement *[AFP]* 35
Man in Glider Syrian *[RFL]* 35
Tension Prevails in Camps *[RFL]* 36
3d 'Infiltrator' Reportedly Arrested *[RFL]* 36
Israeli Armored Force Enters South 26 Nov 36
South Areas Shelled; Helicopters Overfly Tyre 36
Israeli Jets Stage Mock Raids Over Sidon, Camps *[VOL]* 36
Hizballah-Amal Clashes Reported in West Beirut *[VOL]* 36
Amal, Palestinians Resume Fire Near Shatila Camp *[VOL]* 36
'Violent' Clashes Reported *[RFL]* 36
Agreement Reached To End Fighting *[VOM]* 36
Amal Central Military Operations Room Disbanded 37
Amal 'Source' Denies Birri Intends To Resign *[QNA]* 37
9 February Claims Attacks on Syrians in Tripoli *[RFL]* 37
Attack on Syrian Post Claimed *[RFL]* 37
Bombs Dismantled in Tyre; Syrian Found Dead *[VOL]* 37
Group Claims Killing of Syrian Ba'th Official *[VOL]* 37

Resistance Attacks Israeli, Lahd Positions 38
Lahd Officer Threatens UN Norwegian Contingent 38
Publishing House Officials Wounded in Ambush *[VOL]* 38

SYRIA

Al-Asad, King Husayn Resume Talks 25 Nov 39
King Husayn Departs 39
Damascus TV Reports PFLP-GC Glider Operation 39
'Palestine Broadcast' on Operation 39
Paper Views Escalation of Resistance Operations *[AL-THAWRAH]* 40
AL-BA'TH Interviews Vice President *[16 Nov]* 40
Ethiopia's Amanuel Holds Press Conference 41
Ends Visit, Departs 42

SOUTH ASIA

Afghanistan

Security Forces Defuse Bomb in Kabul Theater 43
'Extremists' Crushed in Khowst, Faryab 43
French Citizen Investigated for Espionage 43
Commentator Condemns British 'Interference' 43
Keshtmand, USSR's Ryzhkov Exchange Telegrams 44

Bangladesh

Demonstrations, Carrying of Arms Banned in Dhaka 44
Dhaka Universities Closed 'Until Further Orders' 44
Students To Defy Order *[AFP]* 45
Prime Minister Urges Opposition To End Strikes 45
Party Leader Cited 46
Opposition Holds Rallies in Dhaka, Chittagong *[Delhi]* 46
President Declares 'State of Emergency' 46
AFP Reports Announcement 46

India

USSR's Ryzhkov on Nuclear, Space Cooperation 47
CSSR's Alois Indra Praises Actions for Peace 47
Trade Protocol Signed With Czechoslovakia 48
Government Takes 'Serious View' of Gulf Attacks 48
'Terrorists' Kill 2, Injure 3 in Punjab 48
262 Soldiers Killed, 927 Injured in Sri Lanka 48

Iran

Majlis Speaker Delivers Friday Prayers Sermon 48
Report on Majlis Speaker's Mardabad Speech 49
Correction: Tehran on Reagan's 'Difficulties' 50
Program for Mobilization Week Detailed 50
More on Musavi Address to Mobilization Forces 50
Musavi on Guidelines for Financial Jihad 51
Velayati Interviewed on Visit to Japan 51
Tehran Cites AFP on Attack on Romanian Tanker 52
Navy Chief on Ship Seizures; Condemns U.S. 52
UK Tightening Up Reflagging Legislation 52
Rafiqdust Stresses Continuation of War 53
Congress Continues Study of Mosque Issue 53
Fadlallah on Disavowal March 53
Majlis Speaker Assails Saudi Arabia 54

'Saudi Spy' Arrested; Confesses to Massacre 55
Chief Justice Says Arab Summit 'Catastrophic' 55
25 Nov Cabinet Ministers' Meeting Detailed 55
Tehran Lists Ineligible Majlis Candidates 56
IAEA Response on Bushehr Called 'Mockery' 56
Combat Operations Against Iraq Continue 56
Communique No 3,031 56
Saddam's Forces Level Iraqi Town 57
Jets Bomb Southern Iraq 57
Dahuk Electricity Centers Destroyed 57
Communique No 3,032 57
Iraqi Counterattack Fails 58
Air Force Bombs Iraqi Positions 58

Pakistan

President on Soviet Destabilization Program *[THE MUSLIM 18 Nov]* 58
Government Calls Afghan Tribal Assembly 'Farce' *[AFP]* 59

27 November Middle East and South Asia Review

LD271434 [Editorial Report]

Afghanistan

The Soviet Union has taken the political decision to withdraw its troops from Afghanistan and wants to do this "within the shortest possible time," Soviet Deputy Foreign Minister Igor Rogachev stated at a 27 November press conference reported by TASS. He expressed hope that the next round of indirect Afghan-Pakistani talks in Geneva will produce a "final solution" to outstanding issues, adding that if there is "goodwill" on Pakistan's part, agreement can be reached on a "final schedule for the withdrawal of Soviet troops." A Soviet Foreign Ministry official who also took part in the news conference expressed hope that the groundwork for a coalition government will be laid by the adoption of a new Afghan constitution at the tribal Grand Assembly, which will convene 29 November.

A Pakistani Foreign Office spokesman cited by AFP had earlier dismissed the upcoming Assembly meeting as having "no credibility or relevance" in the context of efforts to solve the Afghan problem. No assembly convened by the DRA authorities can be anything but a "farce," he said.

Attack in Northern Israel

A "terrorist" killed six IDF soldiers and wounded seven others after flying into the Galilee panhandle in a small motorized glider the night of 25 November, IDF radio announced. The intruder landed near Qiryat Shemona, shot dead the driver of an IDF vehicle, and then entered a military camp, where he inflicted the other casualties before being killed by an IDF soldier. Another terrorist was killed after a second glider was shot down over the Israeli "security zone" in southern Lebanon, the radio said. Noting that Israeli forces spotted the gliders crossing into the security zone and gave units in Israel forewarning, Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin told the radio that there will be an inquiry into how it was po sible for the attacker to enter a military camp and inflict such grave casualties.

Responsibility for the operation was claimed by Ahmad Jibril's PFLP-GC, which issued a communique in Damascus acknowledging the death of one commando in the attack but claiming that others were still "carrying out their specified mission," according to Radio Monte Carlo. The PFLP-GC viewed the attack as "the ideal reply to the new calls for realism and capitulation, and the attempts to impose Camp David policy on the Arab and Palestinian arenas." In Israel, Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir accused Syria of connivance in the operation, telling IDF radio that the organization responsible for this "murder" attempt could not have carried it out "without the auspices and help of the Syrians." The clandestine Radio Free Lebanon subsequently cited a disclosure by the PFLP-GC that the man who carried out the attack was a Syrian national. The radio also noted that Syrian forces in the Al-Biqa' Valley have taken precautionary measures against an Israeli reprisal, while the Palestinians have declared a state of alert in their camps in southern Lebanon. Israeli warplanes conducted "mock raids" over Sidon 27 November, according to the Voice of Lebanon.

Gulf Conflict

Military Activity—An Iranian speedboat attacked a Romanian oil tanker off the Dubayy coast 26 November, causing a fire but no casualties, according to maritime sources cited by AFP. Iraqi planes scored an "effective and accurate" hit on a "very large" maritime target off the Iranian coast later the same day, an Iraqi spokesman announced in a statement broadcast by Voice of the Masses radio. IRNA reported that Iranian aircraft bombed Iraqi troop concentrations in Zubaydah 26 November, and Tehran radio announced another Iranian raid on military targets in Al-'Amarah the following day.

On the fighting in the north, Tehran radio claimed that Iranian forces repulsed a "desperate" Iraqi counterattack in the Mawat area the night of 25 November. An Iraqi communique carried by Baghdad radio stated that Iraq's V Army inflicted "devastating" fire on Iranian forces in the northern sector 25-26 November, killing 70 "scoundrels." Iranian artillery shelled the northern Iraqi town of Qal'at Dizah 26 November, killing four citizens and wounding seven, according to an Iraqi spokesman cited by INA. The Iraqi agency had earlier cited a military spokesman's warning that Iraq "might strike at Tehran with missiles or planes" if Iran continues to bombard Iraqi cities.

Iranian Maneuvers—More than 300,000 Mobilization Forces held military maneuvers near Karaj 26 November, Tehran radio reported, noting that the participants were addressed by Majlis Speaker 'Ali Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani.

Saudi 'Spy'—The Iranian Information Ministry announced the arrest of a Saudi "spy" who has confessed "important facts" about the Saudi rulers' "pre-planned massacre" of Iranian pilgrims last July, IRNA reported 26 November. The same day, Tehran radio carried a statement by Hashemi-Rafsanjani asserting that Iran is ready to fight for the "liberation" of Mecca from Saudi control and for the establishment of "Islam international" in the holy city.

Arson in Kuwait—A fire which broke out in a building housing the American Life Insurance Company 25 November was caused by the planting of "incendiary material" near the door of the company office, a Kuwaiti security source told KUNA.

Velayati's Japan Visit—After returning from his 3-day visit to Japan, Iranian Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati told Tehran radio that he held "useful and detailed" talks with Japanese leaders on bilateral relations and international issues. He said there were detailed discussions on Iran's "clear and overt" stance in the United Nations, and on the appointment of an Iranian representative for continuing talks with the UN secretary general. Velayati held talks with his UAE counterpart during a stopover in Abu Dhabi on his return journey, IRNA noted.

According to KUNA, Velayati left Japan "without proper explanation and apology" after cancelling a scheduled press conference at the Japan National Press Club. "Observers" cited by the agency viewed the cancellation as an expression of Velayati's displeasure at Japanese media coverage of his visit.

Lebanon

Hostages—The "Revolutionary Justice Organization" announced in a communique released 26 November that it has decided to release two French hostages "within 24 hours," Voice of Lebanon radio reported. The statement, delivered to *Al-Nahar* newspaper and accompanied by a photograph of a French hostage, linked the decision to mediation efforts by "certain friends" and to "assurances" from the French Government.

Skaf Resignation—Information Minister Joseph Skaf tendered his resignation in a letter delivered to acting Prime Minister Salim al-Huss 26 November, Beirut radio reported. Al-Huss expressed understanding for the "national position" which prompted Skaf's resignation, according to Voice of Lebanon radio.

Inter-Arab Affairs

Reporting on Jordanian King Husayn's 25 November talks with Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad, diplomatic sources cited by the UAE's *Al-Ittihad* stated that Husayn's visit to Damascus was prompted by his belief that current moves toward Syrian-Iraqi rapprochement are insufficient, Abu Dhabi radio noted. Husayn is asking the Syrian and Iraqi leaders to immediately resume diplomatic relations, the sources said, but the Syrians believe this should follow the reopening of borders and economic relations.

Earlier, the Kuwaiti paper *Al-Ra'y al-'Amm* predicted that the Jordanian, Syrian, Iraqi, and Saudi leaders will hold a quadripartite summit in Saudi Arabia "soon" to boost efforts to reconcile Syria and Iraq, and to discuss ways to halt the Gulf war.

Tunisia

Internal Security—Interior Minister Habib Ammar provided more information about the arrested "gang of malefactors" during a 25 November press conference reported by Tunis radio. The authorities have arrested 73 people in connection with the case, including a number of soldiers and policemen, Ammar disclosed. He gave details of arms and explosives seized from the plotters, adding that they had planned to assassinate state officials and attack civilian and military installations. While stressing that the case is separate from that of the Islamic Tendency Movement (MTI), he noted that one man sentenced in absentia during the MTI trial is accused of involvement in this case.

Foreign Relations—Prime Minister Hedi Baccouche's 25 November visit to Algiers reflects the closeness of Tunisian-Algerian relations as well as Tunisia's desire to deepen consultations and coordination with Algeria, according to a TAP commentary cited by Tunis radio. Algiers radio stated that Baccouche's talks with President Chadli Bendjedid were an opportunity to discuss ways to deepen the "excellent" relations between the two countries.

In another development, Tunis radio reported the arrival of a Moroccan envoy carrying a message for President Zine el Abidine Ben Ali.

Libya-Chad

The Chadian report of a Libyan incursion into eastern Chad from Sudanese territory was "completely" denied by a Libyan Foreign Liaison Bureau source cited by Tripoli radio, who accused the Chadian leadership of "fabricating and spreading lies in order to conceal the reality of the deteriorating situation in Chad." Claiming that "there was no such attack and there are no Libyan forces on Sudanese territory," the Libyan official contended that Chad is making such allegations in order to justify a fresh attack on Libyan territory, carried out "in implementation of orders from the United States."

In a related development, the Chadian Democratic Revolutionary Council (CDRC) claimed responsibility for the recent clash with FANT forces in the Koulbouss area of eastern Chad, Paris radio reported. The CDRC is associated with Acheikh ibn Oumar, leader of the Libyan-backed GUNT.

Inter-Arab Affairs

Saudi Arabia To Host 'Quadripartite Summit'

JN251623 Kuwait AL-RA'Y AL-'AMM in Arabic 24 Nov 87 p 1

[Text] Amman—Reliable sources have told *Al-Ra'y al-'Amm* that a quadripartite summit comprising Jordan's King Husayn, Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad, Iraqi President Saddam Husayn, and King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, custodian of the two holy mosques, will take place in Saudi Arabia soon. The purpose of the meeting is to boost reconciliation efforts between Syria and Iraq and to discuss ways to halt the Iraq-Iran war.

Syria Promised Gulf Aid Totaling $4 Billion

PM251245 London AL-TADAMUN in Arabic 21 Nov 87 p 10

[Salih Zaytun report: "Syrian-Gulf Understanding Facilitated Issuing of Final Statement"]

[Excerpts] The most distinguished agreement achieved on the sidelines of the Amman summit, which contributed to the summit's success, was the understanding reached between the Syrian regime and the GCC states. *Al-Tadamun* has learned from Arab and Gulf sources that the agreement included the provision of Gulf aid to Syria totaling $4 billion, with an initial payment of $300 million (in another report the figures were $2 billion, with an initial payment of $500 million); the rest was to be settled in accordance with Syria's commitment to the points agreed upon, especially with regard to pressure on Iran.

Assessing the results of the extraordinary summit in Amman, a Gulf official told *Al-Tadamun*: "The Arab summit, which Egypt did not attend, was in fact a summit for Egypt's return, despite the fact that the agenda's primary issue was the Gulf war." The official added: "In fact, despite its relative success, the final assessment of the summit is that it has neither succeeded nor failed."

We asked the Gulf official about the meaning of this assessment and he replied: "By calculating gains and losses one will find that the first beneficiary of the summit was King Husayn, whom everyone sought not to disappoint in view of the enormous arrangements made to host the summit in his capital, as well as the tireless efforts exerted to associate Amman's name with the spirit of accord and agreement. The other beneficiary was Egypt, although it did not attend. At this summit there was a strong trend, from which only Libya and Syria deviated, which called for the restoration of relations with Egypt, even though the summit had rejected a proposal by Palestinian leader Yasir 'Arafat calling for Egypt's return to be declared officially through the Arab League rather than leaving the issue to each Arab state's sovereignty." [passage omitted]

Al-Tadamun has learned from Gulf sources that GCC defense ministers "will discuss another important issue connected with the Gulf war; namely, the question of providing facilities to Western military fleets in Gulf waters. The GCC states have received a number of requests in this regard from countries which have sent their frigates, minesweepers, and ships under the pretext of safeguarding international navigation."

These sources believe that the Gulf efforts exerted at the summit prevented a resolution or statement condemning the foreign presence in Gulf waters. The GCC states had explained to Arab leaders that such a presence is there in response to Gulf requests. This point in particular was discussed between Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad and GCC leaders in the presence of King Husayn and in the absence of Sultan Qabus of Oman.

According to these sources, the Syrian-Gulf meeting during the Amman summit resulted in a number of agreements on numerous points under which a Gulf response was made to Syria's demand for urgent aid estimated at about $4 billion. However, only the sum of $300 million was agreed to be paid immediately; the remainder is to be paid in installments according to Syria's commitment to the Gulf states' demands, which include Syria's participation in persuading Iran not to expand the war zone to include the GCC states. [passage omitted]

Palestinian Affairs

PFLP-GC Claims Qiryat Shemona Operation

JN260834 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 0800 GMT 26 Nov 87

[Text] The PFLP-GC this morning claimed responsibility for last night's operation during which six Israeli soldiers were killed and seven others were injured. The communique said that a member of the martyr 1st Lieutenant Abu 'Ammar Adham group had carried out this operation, which resulted in a number of soldiers and an Israeli officer, whose rank was not identified, being killed. The operation, which also resulted in the killing of the commando, was codenamed (?Qibyah) after the Palestinian village that Ari'el Sharon attacked on 15 October 1953.

The PFLP-GC added that this operation took place at a triangle located between Al-Khalisah [Qiryat Shemona], Kefar (Kal'adi), and Kefar Yuval. It said that a subsequent communique will be issued later today.

Communique on Glider Operation

JN261249 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1210 GMT 26 Nov 87

[Louis Faris dispatch from Damascus]

[Text] In a military communique distributed here this morning, Ahmad Jibril's PFLP-GC claimed responsibility for the commando operation. It said that the martyr

Abu 'Ammar Adham group, named after a first lieutenant pilot, took off at 2215 yesterday to carry out an assault operation against a military target in northern Israel. A formation of gliders landed near the command of a northern region camp and the commandos took the Israeli soldiers there by surprise. They hurled bombs at the camp and managed to storm it. A clash involving the use of machineguns then ensued with the camp's personnel, during which the commandos killed a number of officers and soldiers.

The communique noted that one commando was martyred in the operation. According to the latest reports which the PFLP-GC command has received from the battlefield, there are other commandos still in place who are carrying out their specified missions.

The Front has codenamed this attack the Qibyah martyrs operation. Qibyah is a Palestinian village whose inhabitants were exposed to a savage massacre led by Ari'el Sharon and Yitzhaq Shamir on 15 October 1953. The Front's communique asserted that this operation was the ideal reply to new calls for realism and capitulation and the attempts to impose the Camp David policy on the Arab and Palestinian arenas.

Further on Operation

NC261437 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 1400 GMT 26 Nov 87

[Text] Severe tension currently prevails in the border strip areas as the Israeli occupation forces intensify their movements in the wake of the operation carried out by the PFLP-GC against an enemy military base inside the occupied territory. Abu al-Fida 'Umran, a PFLP-GC official in the south, has issued a statement on this glider operation. He reported that the Palestinian air force carried out a landing operation in the (Dibor) area of northern Palestine. The operation was targeted against a helicopter airstrip near Qiryat Shemona on the Lebanese-Palestinian border, the largest Zionist camp in that region. The operation was named after martyr pilot Abu 'Ammar Adham, who was the commander of the PFLP-GC pioneer suicide unit. One of the comrades went to the officers club after the glider landed and immediately began firing at Zionist soldiers in all directions. When his ammunition ran out, he blew himself up with an explosive belt.

The official concluded his statement by saying that this operation was undertaken in response to the deviationist policy in the Palestinian arena and a reaction against all those who are advocating an international conference. This operation proves that the path to Palestine is one of armed struggle. The liberation of Palestine cannot be achieved by sitting around international conference tables; it can only be achieved by such operations as this.

Over 20 Casualties Claimed

JN261825 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1730 GMT 26 Nov 87

[Louis Faris dispatch from Damascus]

[Text] The PFLP-GC has announced that the military target attacked by the fedayeen is the (Garibore) military camp, which to the Israelis means the heroes' camp. The PFLP-GC said that more than 20 Israeli soldiers were either killed or wounded, including officers.

The PFLP-GC reported that in accordance with the objectives of the plan, three fedayeen were able to withdraw from the battlefield and were in constant contact with their command. However, one of them was forced to land in the border strip area because his glider was hit on his return. The others continued their withdrawal and arrived safely at their bases.

The PFLP-GC spokesman said that one of the fedayeen was martyred, one was missing, and the other members of the formation returned safely to base. He warned against any attempt to tamper with the fate of the captured fedayeen and asked the Red Cross committee to play its humanitarian role. He affirmed that this operation is the best answer to the new calls for realism, capitulation, and attempts to impose the Camp David policy on the Arab and Palestinian arenas.

Communique Reports Attacks in Hebron, Gaza

JN262020 Baghdad Voice of the PLO in Arabic 1815 GMT 26 Nov 87

[Communique by military spokesman for the Palestinian Revolution Forces General Command; date and place not given]

[Text] Pursuant to instructions, our heroic revolutionaries operating inside the occupied homeland launched two incendiary grenade attacks yesterday against two Zionist military vehicles. The first attack took place near the Ibrahimi Mosque in Hebron and the other was in Gaza. Two vehicles were set ablaze in the attacks and various wounds were inflicted on enemy personnel.

The Zionist enemy forces sealed off the scene of the two operations and carried out a large-scale search and arrest campaign among the Palestinian citizens on the pretext of being connected with the two attacks.

Our heroic revolutionaries returned to their bases safely. Revolution until victory.

decision is adopted in the end. Very often the decisions are unanimous. If Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] wants to come to Egypt, he will do so, for Egypt is his country.

Question: In the wake of the latest Arab summit, some people believe that although King Husayn succeeded in restoring Arab-Egyptian relations no tangible progress was made toward settling PLO-Jordanian differences. How true is that?

Answer: Such tendentious rumors do not serve the cause. I know that King Husayn has received 'Arafat many times. At the recent summit, he received the kings and heads of state according to protocol. Meetings were held between King Husayn and Abu 'Ammar, and I believe that their discussions were very good. They reached understanding on the plan to be followed in future moves with regard to the Palestinian question. We will either move together, or move separately but complement one another.

Question: But how do you now view the Jordanian concept of Palestinian representation at an international conference in light of King Husayn's speech at the recent summit?

Answer: As I have said, King Husayn's meeting with 'Arafat was good. Our dialogue with the king continues on the question of whether we will be represented at the international conference as a Jordanian-Palestinian delegation, as an independent Palestinian delegation, or as a joint Arab delegation. That has actually already been discussed and the Executive Committee will decide the position to be taken in relation to this dialogue. The entire international community, with the exception of the United States and Israel, is in favor of an effective international conference with the participation of the five permanent members of the Security Council and all the parties to the conflict, including the PLO in its capacity as the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people.

The United States and Israel want the conference to be some kind of seminar where the big five would hear the views of the two opposing sides and then give them the right to meet and negotiate. We Arabs do not accept that. We want an effective international conference with the participation of the five permanent members of the Security Council, as well as the states concerned (Syria, Lebanon, and Jordan) and the PLO. We must assume that the conference will be held and we should begin preparing for it.

Question: Did 'Arafat's recent visit to Moscow produce any results with regard to Syrian-Palestinian relations?

Answer: The Soviet Union, as a friendly state, has not failed to play its part in this connection. It is still making efforts to improve our relations with Syria. I believe that the Soviet Union did contribute to what has already been achieved in the dialogue between us and Syria; that is, the exchange of memoranda between us. Algeria and certain other Arab states also played a part. We hope to be able to resume and sustain our dialogue with fraternal Syria with a view to achieving complete understanding and agreement. In actual fact, there is no disagreement between us and Syria on international matters.

Question: There are pressures and attempts to close down your office in New York, just like the PLO Information Office in Washington.

Answer: We have two offices in the United States, one an information office in Washington originally opened by a U.S. Justice Department order. We have now sued to have it reopened. The other office is attached to the United Nations because we are an observer member of the General Assembly and Security Council and have a role to play there. The United States has no control over it and no right to close it down. Yes, there are Israeli pressures aimed at getting rid of the Palestinians by legal or illegal means.

Question: The PLO'S contacts with the Israeli Left have produced nothing, but it has been reported that other meetings will be held. What is the significance of that?

Answer: Talks were held between some PLO members and the Israeli Left in implementation of a PNC resolution. We view these talks not as a dialogue meant to produce decisions but as an attempt to convince some Israeli leftwing elements that the position of their government is wrong and that we do want peace. We do not expect to succeed in 1 or 2 days, but we are trying.

Question: Will the meetings continue?

Answer: The meetings will continue because PNC resolutions at various sessions have been in favor of contacts with people who recognize the PLO as the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people and acknowledge their right to self-determination and to an independent state. Eighty-five prominent Israeli intellectuals have submitted a note to the Israeli Government urging it to change its policies and methods lest they jeopardize Israel's future. They have begun to recognize the Palestinian people's right to self-determination, which is a positive result of the contacts with the Israeli Left.

Al-Wazir Notes No Change in Tunis Relations

PM271337 London AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT in Arabic 25 Nov 87 p 1

[Unattributed report: "Zine Meets 'Arafat. 'Abu Jihad: No Change in Our Relations"]

[Excerpt] [Passage omitted] The PLO has confirmed that no change has occurred in its relations with the Tunisian Government since President Zine El Abidine Ben Ali took power. The PLO has denied receiving any request or message from the Tunisian Government referring to such a change.

'Arafat on Relations With Jordan, Syria

PM251205 Jeddah 'UKAZ in Arabic 21 Nov 87 p 1

[Samir al-Hiyari report: "'Arafat to *'Ukaz*: Very Imminent Jordanian-Palestinian Committee Meeting; Contacts With Syria Have Not Yet Begun]

[Text] PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat has declared that the joint Jordanian-Palestinian committee for strengthening the steadfastness of citizens in the occupied territories will meet very shortly.

In an exclusive statement to *'Ukaz*, 'Arafat said that during their discussions in Amman at the extraordinary Arab summit he and King Husayn of Jordan had agreed to convene a committee meeting. 'Arafat pointed out that he and King Husayn had discussed all the special circumstances surrounding the Palestinian problem. 'Arafat expressed satisfaction with the talks.

Commenting on Palestinian-Syrian relations, 'Arafat said that he has received Syria's reply to two memoranda which the PLO had sent to President Hafiz al-Asad prior to the summit. He noted that the PLO did not send anyone to Damascus. He also asserted that there are no Algerian "maneuvers or talks" between the PLO and Damascus with a view to restoring relations between the two parties.

'Arafat confirmed that the Amman summit has achieved a great deal with regard to Arab solidarity and has united ranks. He expressed his happiness over the resolution on the question of relations between Arab states and Egypt under which nine Arab states have resumed diplomatic relations with Egypt. 'Arafat said that the PLO was the first Arab party to restore relations with Cairo. He added: "At the beginning we focused on two points with regard to the restoration of relations: first, Egypt's commitment to the charter of the joint Arab defense pact; and second, commitment to Arab summit resolutions."

As for the question of the Gulf war, 'Arafat stressed that Security Council Resolution 598 is fair, balanced, and very clear; therefore, it should not be rejected by any party. He also said that Iran has not yet formulated a clear position on this resolution.

Turning to the idea of an international conference on peace in the Middle East, 'Arafat stated that the extraordinary summit was clear in its resolution supporting the convening of an international conference under UN sponsorship and with the participation of the Security Council's five permanent members, as well as all parties concerned, including the PLO.

'Arafat saluted the Palestinian people's rising in the occupied territories. He said that by these honorable actions against the Israeli enemy, they are in fact proving that the Palestinian struggle is continuing. 'Arafat praised the Arab citizens' steadfast resistance against the enemy. He affirmed: We will back whoever defends the blessed Al-Aqsa Mosque and holy Jerusalem, as well as every inch of the usurped Arab, Palestinian territories.

At the end of his statement, 'Arafat conveyed his appreciation to all sisterly states supporting the cause of the Palestinian people. He called for strengthening steadfastness in the occupied territories.

PNC Speaker Interviewed on Amman Summit

PM251443 London AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT in Arabic 22 Nov 87 p 2

[Unattributed interview with PNC Speaker Shaykh 'Abd al-Hamid al-Sa'ih in Cairo; date not given]

[Text] Question: What can you say about relations with Egypt and about the PLO offices there in the wake of the restoration of Arab-Egyptian ties?

Answer: When the Arab states severed their ties with Egypt, the embassies suspended their work in accordance with a decision by the Arab states. When these ties were restored following the Amman summit, that too was in accordance with a decision by the same Arab states. With regard to the PLO offices, we expect Egypt to decide on reopening these offices soon, because the decision to close them was a decision by the Egyptian Government.

Question: What about your talks in Cairo on this current visit? Anything new there?

Answer: I have had a meeting with Egyptian Foreign Minister Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid. We discussed the results of the Amman summit. I discussed PLO-Jordanian relations with [Presidential Office Director] Dr Usamah al-Baz. I also met with other Egyptian officials, particularly People's Assembly Speaker Dr Rif'at al-Mahjub and Consultative Council Speaker Dr 'Ali Lutfi. These talks were good.

Question: Is there any opposition within the PLO Executive Committee, formed after the PNC session, to 'Arafat's visit to Egypt, bearing in mind the rumors about differences between the various Palestinian fronts on this particular matter?

Answer: As the National Council, we speak for all the Palestinian people. Neither the Executive Committee nor any other committee can make any decision against the wishes of the majority. We will not reveal the views of each organization separately. Frankly, I have attended many meetings and seen sound democracy prevail at them. After calm and objective discussions, a position is arrived at in harmony with Palestinian and Arab interests without any intransigence or insistence on any particular view. We have 15 members, including 3 from the DFLP, the PFLP, and the Communist Party. I cannot say that the three constitute an opposition front. Differences of opinion are natural, as long as a majority

decision is adopted in the end. Very often the decisions are unanimous. If Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] wants to come to Egypt, he will do so, for Egypt is his country.

Question: In the wake of the latest Arab summit, some people believe that although King Husayn succeeded in restoring Arab-Egyptian relations no tangible progress was made toward settling PLO-Jordanian differences. How true is that?

Answer: Such tendentious rumors do not serve the cause. I know that King Husayn has received 'Arafat many times. At the recent summit, he received the kings and heads of state according to protocol. Meetings were held between King Husayn and Abu 'Ammar, and I believe that their discussions were very good. They reached understanding on the plan to be followed in future moves with regard to the Palestinian question. We will either move together, or move separately but complement one another.

Question: But how do you now view the Jordanian concept of Palestinian representation at an international conference in light of King Husayn's speech at the recent summit?

Answer: As I have said, King Husayn's meeting with 'Arafat was good. Our dialogue with the king continues on the question of whether we will be represented at the international conference as a Jordanian-Palestinian delegation, as an independent Palestinian delegation, or as a joint Arab delegation. That has actually already been discussed and the Executive Committee will decide the position to be taken in relation to this dialogue. The entire international community, with the exception of the United States and Israel, is in favor of an effective international conference with the participation of the five permanent members of the Security Council and all the parties to the conflict, including the PLO in its capacity as the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people.

The United States and Israel want the conference to be some kind of seminar where the big five would hear the views of the two opposing sides and then give them the right to meet and negotiate. We Arabs do not accept that. We want an effective international conference with the participation of the five permanent members of the Security Council, as well as the states concerned (Syria, Lebanon, and Jordan) and the PLO. We must assume that the conference will be held and we should begin preparing for it.

Question: Did 'Arafat's recent visit to Moscow produce any results with regard to Syrian-Palestinian relations?

Answer: The Soviet Union, as a friendly state, has not failed to play its part in this connection. It is still making efforts to improve our relations with Syria. I believe that the Soviet Union did contribute to what has already been achieved in the dialogue between us and Syria; that is, the exchange of memoranda between us. Algeria and certain other Arab states also played a part. We hope to be able to resume and sustain our dialogue with fraternal Syria with a view to achieving complete understanding and agreement. In actual fact, there is no disagreement between us and Syria on international matters.

Question: There are pressures and attempts to close down your office in New York, just like the PLO Information Office in Washington.

Answer: We have two offices in the United States, one an information office in Washington originally opened by a U.S. Justice Department order. We have now sued to have it reopened. The other office is attached to the United Nations because we are an observer member of the General Assembly and Security Council and have a role to play there. The United States has no control over it and no right to close it down. Yes, there are Israeli pressures aimed at getting rid of the Palestinians by legal or illegal means.

Question: The PLO'S contacts with the Israeli Left have produced nothing, but it has been reported that other meetings will be held. What is the significance of that?

Answer: Talks were held between some PLO members and the Israeli Left in implementation of a PNC resolution. We view these talks not as a dialogue meant to produce decisions but as an attempt to convince some Israeli leftwing elements that the position of their government is wrong and that we do want peace. We do not expect to succeed in 1 or 2 days, but we are trying.

Question: Will the meetings continue?

Answer: The meetings will continue because PNC resolutions at various sessions have been in favor of contacts with people who recognize the PLO as the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people and acknowledge their right to self-determination and to an independent state. Eighty-five prominent Israeli intellectuals have submitted a note to the Israeli Government urging it to change its policies and methods lest they jeopardize Israel's future. They have begun to recognize the Palestinian people's right to self-determination, which is a positive result of the contacts with the Israeli Left.

Al-Wazir Notes No Change in Tunis Relations

PM271337 London AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT in Arabic 25 Nov 87 p 1

[Unattributed report: "Zine Meets 'Arafat, 'Abu Jihad: No Change in Our Relations"]

[Excerpt] [Passage omitted] The PLO has confirmed that no change has occurred in its relations with the Tunisian Government since President Zine El Abidine Ben Ali took power. The PLO has denied receiving any request or message from the Tunisian Government referring to such a change.

Khalil al-Wazir (Abu Jihad), deputy commander in chief of the Palestinian Revolution Forces and member of the Fatah Central Committee, asserted: "We have not heard of any remark of this kind."

During a telephone call with him in Baghdad, Abu Jihad told *Al-Sharq al-Awsat*: "As is known, the PLO has no military offices in Tunisia. The PLO carries out political and organizational activities there. The relationship between us and the brothers in Tunisia at present is brotherly. There is a joint desire to keep it firm and clear. During the new era, the brother Tunisian leaders have always expressed such a brotherly attitude."

Abu Jihad indicated that "the relationship will become even stronger and firmer during this era, especially as the brothers in power appreciate Palestinian action and its developments. They are among those who are eager to safeguard it and support its struggle."

Algeria

Tunisian Prime Minister Received by Bendjedid

LD260040 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 1830 GMT 25 Nov 87

[Excerpt] Chadli Bendjedid, president of the Republic and secretary general of the FLN party, received Hedi Baccouche, Tunisian prime minister, at his office today. Mr Baccouche conveyed a message to Chadli Bendjedid from Zine El Abidine Ben Ali, president of the Tunisian Republic, within the framework of the dialogue and talks between the two countries.

The brotherly talks between the two sides were an opportunity to discuss the necessary means for bolstering and deepening the excellent relations between the states. The discussions centered on the process of constructing the Great Arab Maghreb, as well as on Arab affairs, now that the Amman emergency summit has concluded. The meeting was attended by Mr Mohamed Cherif Messaadia, member of the Political Bureau and head of the Permanent Secretariat of the FLN party Central Committee, and Dr Ahmed Taleb Ibrahimi, member of the Political Bureau and foreign minister. The respective ambassadors of the two countries also participated. [passage omitted]

Summarizes Talks

LD261101 Algiers APS in English 1005 GMT 26 Nov 87

[Text] Algiers, 26/11/87 (APS)—Tunisian Premier and Destourian Socialist Party Secretary General Hedi Baccouche left Wednesday Algiers, at the end of a brief visit as special envoy of President Zine El Abidine Ben Ali.

Baccouche stated before departure that in the frame of dialogue and consultation between the political leaderships of the two countries, he handed a message from President Ben Ali to President Bendjedid. He said talks he had with President Bendjedid dealt with the excellent bilateral relations that the two parties are determined to extend and strengthen. [Words indistinct] he carried on, that the works of the joint commission due within the coming weeks will have positive results and will meet the Tunisian and Algerian peoples' expectation. The situation in the Arab world following the summit of Amman was also tackled during the talks, Baccouche added.

In a statement at his arrival here, the Tunisian Premier told the press that Tunisia wants to deepen and enlarge fields of cooperation between the two peoples. He also underlined his country's faithfulness to the treaty of fraternity and concord which constitutes a civilizational frame from exemplary relations between brothers and a sound basis for the materialization of solidarity between countries of the Arab Maghreb.

Shortly before his departure from Tunis, he told "APS" that President Ben Ali has reaffirmed the Maghreb orientation of the Tunisian policy. In this context, the Tunisian premier underlined that this visit to Algeria, the first one he makes abroad as prime minister, confirms this orientation and shows the place of Algeria, its president, its government and its people in Tunisia.

Concludes Visit, Departs

LD260046 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 2200 GMT 25 Nov 87

[Excerpt] Tunisian Prime Minister Hedi Baccouche, secretary general of the Destourian Socialist Party, departed Algeria this evening following a short visit as a personal envoy of President Zine El Abidine Ben Ali. [passage omitted]

Chad

Acheikh ibn Oumar Group Claims Koulbous Action

LD261917 Paris International Service in French 1800 GMT 26 Nov 87

[Text] The Chadian Democratic Revolutionary Council today claimed responsibility for the fighting that took place in Koulbous, in eastern Chad, a few days ago. The movement of Acheikh ibn Oumar also announced its intention to create several fronts in the direction of Ndjamena [as heard] between now and the end of the year.

FANT Claims Right of Pursuit

AB252044 Ndjamena Domestic Service in French 1845 GMT 25 Nov 87

[Station commentary]

[Text] Sudan's Darfur Province has become a springboard for acts of aggression against Chad. It has been quite a while since the Chadian Government first alerted international public opinion to the active complicity of Sudan. Khartoum authorizes and encourages the military implantation of Al-Qadhdhafi on its territory, with a view to attacking the eastern flank of Chad. As you learned yesterday, the FANT routed a large column of the Libyan Islamic Legion. It intercepted this formation in the Koulbous area, near (Ajer Marfayin). The mission of these perpetrators of aggression—they included, as always, mercenaries of all kinds, recruited and armed by the terrorist of Tripoli—was to start a war in the eastern part of our country. The energetic, exemplary, and effective response of the valiant FANT against the enemy displayed once again, as if there was a need for further demonstration, that the FANT is determined to defend the integrity and independence of Chad. The Islamic legion of Al-Qadhdhafi left five dead bodies lying on the battlefield. Its men then desperately fled while carrying away their numerous wounded.

In the face of the irrationality and irresponsibility of the Al-Sadiq al-Mahdi government, which continues to play Al-Qadhdhafi's dangerous game, the FANT, in the case of a fresh Libyan act of infiltration, will no longer hesitate in the slightest at pursuing the enemy and destroying it. The FANT will do this right up to the base that these persons were launched from. Sudan has therefore been strongly warned that the FANT has the legitimate right to pursue the enemy into Sudanese territory in the event of aggression. As was recently declared by the FANT commander in chief, Chadians, due to their wrath toward Al-Qadhdhafi, are filled with a moral strength that multiplies their capabilities tenfold. This indestructible moral strength is [words indistinct] and the love of freedom. The Sudanese leaders must therefore seriously consider the consequences of their complicity with this aggression against the Chadian people.

Just as it dislocated the Libyan positions in the north of the country, the FANT is also perfectly capable of meting out the harshest military punishment to the (?aggressor) should the the Khartoum Government participate, as we anticipate, in opening a second front against Chad—especially in the east of our country. It is clear that after having been belittled in the African and Middle Eastern arenas, the Tripoli regime in its desperation has now embarked on the fruitless path of international terrorism and warring escapism against Chad. Chad is thought to be the weak link in the Sahelian empire that Al-Qadhdhafi wishes to build by force. This is the explanation for Tripoli's nonobservance of the cease-fire demanded by the OAU in September. This was also an agreement that our country accepted and respected. With its attack last weekend, Libya has now crossed the Rubicon. Nothing can restrain the FANT any longer in the event of a fresh Libyan offensive against our national territory.

Lassou on OAU, UN Roles in Libya Conflict

AB261955 Ndjamena Domestic Service in French 1845 GMT 26 Nov 87

[Text] Minister of Foreign Affairs Gouara Lassou, who brought a message from President El Hadj Hissein Habre to his Burkinabe counterpart, Captain Blaise Compaore, stated after his audience that he and the Burkinabe head of state had discussed the political and military situation in Chad. After Ouagadougou, the Chadian foreign minister will visit the Ivory Coast, where he will also deliver a message from our head of state to the Ivorian president, Felix Houphouet-Boigny. The foreign minister briefed the Burkinabe press on the political and military situation in Chad, as well as on the UN General Assembly debate on the Chad-Libya conflict. It should be recalled that on (?6) November, the UN General Assembly decided to postpone the inclusion of the Chad-Libya conflict on its agenda. Our country made this request [words indistinct] Kenneth Kaunda, current chairman of the OAU and Zambian head of state. He had issued a motion requesting a postponement of debate on the Chad-Libya conflict at the UN General Assembly. This is to make the task more difficult [as heard] for the OAU ad hoc committee, an argument that, as we noted at that time, was very weak. In fact, we wondered how this UN debate could jeopardize the actions of the OAU. The Chadian news agency, for example, then wrote that the UN debate will [passage indistinct] our foreign minister held the same views when he met the Burkinabe press. Gouara Lassou, who is now visiting Ouagadougou, stated that the role of the United Nations is to seek ways to peacefully solve conflicts involving member states. In answering a question on Chad's reaction to the UN decision to postpone the debate requested by our country, Gouara Lassou stated the following to our colleague Yannick-Laurent Bayala:

[Begin Lassou recording] In following the UN policy of leaving regional conflicts to be solved by regional organizations, the UN General Assembly rejected [words indistinct] the request to place the issue on the agenda. This was not a defeat for Chad. The debate was postponed, not rejected [words indistinct] Libya is occupying part of Chad. [passage indistinct] People say this was a defeat for Chad. I say it was not. It was not a victory for Libya, either. Libya wants to waste the OAU's time. Libya wants to use the cease-fire called for by the OAU to prepare a new general offensive against Chad. Libya is wrong. It will never agree to sit down at a table for talks and to find a peaceful solution to this problem. [end recording]

The Chadian foreign minister only reminded the African public of the internationally recognized bad faith the Libyan regime has demonstrated. As usual, Tripoli has used corruption and blackmail to create a certain confusion at the (?United Nations) on the Chad-Libya conflict. [Passage indistinct] in any case, will the African community finally open its eyes to the dangers that cruel Al-Qadhdhafi is posing to peace in Africa?

Egypt

Assembly Official Interviewed on Amman Summit

PM251111 London AL-MAJALLAH in Arabic 18-24 Nov 87 p 17

[Unattributed interview with People's Assembly Arab Affairs Committee Chairman Muhammad Hasan al-Zayyat in Cairo; date not given]

[Text] Question: How do you assess the Amman emergency summit results, especially those concerning Egypt?

Answer: Expectations before the conference were more pessimistic, and it was assumed that the results of this Arab summit would be bad. The summit emerged with declared resolutions, especially concerning condemnation of the Iranian position and support for Iraq. Syria's agreement to such a resolution means that Syria disagrees with what Iran is doing. If this is the true Syrian position, then it confirms the existence of Arab solidarity, which is a big accomplishment for the Amman summit.

Mosque and the holy Al-Ibrahimi Mosque, as well as Israel's attempts to prevent Muslims from conducting prayers in the Al-Ibrahimi Mosque. He noted that such acts require Arab and Islamic action to prevent Israel from continuing its violations of international law and human rights. Al-Sa'ih said that the international community has become aware of the need for a decisive solution to the Arab-Israeli conflict and for deterring Israel's aggression. The only way to achieve that, he said, is by convening an international peace conference. This conference must be attended by the five UN permanent member countries as well as other countries concerned with the Palestinian issue including the PLO, in its capacity as the sole and legitimate representative of the Arab Palestinian people. The Arabs, he said, should adopt a unified stand in support of the Palestinian issue and must insist on resolving it in a manner that will secure the Palestinian people's right to self-determination and to establishment of their independent state, issues which the Palestinian people will never relinquish.

Within this context, Al-Sa'ih said the Arab's friends should pressure Israel to convince her of the necessity for an international conference, and that the United States should use all means to convince the Israeli leaders of the need for such a conference.

Commenting on the Gulf war, the PNC speaker said its continuation undoubtedly affects the efforts aimed at resolving the Palestinian issue, adding that Arab countries should set up an Arab force to be utilized in rescuing Palestine and Jerusalem. Iran as an Islamic state, he said, must carry out its Islamic duty in rescuing these shrines and should implement all UN resolutions with regard to the Gulf war.

Speaking about Jordan's relations with the PLO, Al-Sa'ih said: Jordan and we are one people and our ties, which existed before the Israeli presence, are eternal. Dialogue between Jordan and Palestine, he added, is continuing in order to restore the Palestinian people's legitimate rights.

The PNC speaker was seen off at Cairo Airport by Zuhdi al-Qadrah, representative of the Fatah Movement in Cairo.

Shamir Rejection of Peace Conference Assailed

NC261630 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1240 GMT 26 Nov 87

[Commentary by Muhammad Sharaf: "Comprehensive International Support for Convening an International Conference for Peace in the Middle East"]

[Text] During their recent talks in Cairo, Egyptian and Romanian Presidents Husni Mubarak and Nicolae Ceausescu stressed the need for intensifying efforts to convene an international conference for peace in the Middle East and for agreements to resolve problems and disputes through negotiations. At the end of their recent meetings in Brussels, the EC foreign ministers emphasized their support for convening an international conference for peace in the Middle East under UN auspices, as the sole means of boosting regional peace efforts. The chief of the Soviet friendship delegation, who visited Amman recently, said that the Soviet Union will exert efforts toward convening an international conference for peace under UN auspices.

Israeli Prime Minister Shamir, who is visiting the United States, said in New York that he insists on rejecting the idea of an international conference for peace. He asserted that peace, in his view, can only be achieved through direct talks. He also said that the idea of an international conference is a Soviet proposal by which Moscow aims to interfere in regional affairs. He further noted that Jordan is an actual Palestinian state and that he rejects the establishment of yet another one. Shamir made these statements at a time when his foreign minister, Shim'on Peres, was in London discussing the idea of convening an international conference for peace in the region.

A few days ago UN Secretary General Perez de Cuellar said, in a report to the UN General Assembly, that the main obstacle to convening an international conference for peace in the Middle East exists within the divisions, over this issue, in Israel. He was referring to the differences in views between Shamir and Peres over the conference. Perez de Cuellar said that the differences between the parties concerned in the Middle East conflict are procedural and can be overcome, despite their difficult nature.

We can thus see that Shamir is almost the only one against the conference backed by the Likud bloc which he chairs. No one can speculate how the situation will end up in Israel regarding the international conference. If Shamir persists in his position, only the next year's general elections in Israel could settle the matter. Until the elections are over no one can guarantee that the Israeli Labor Party headed by Peres, who supports the convening of the conference, will win. Thus, the situation will not gain any practical momentum, despite large-scale international support for the international conference, except through elections in Israel.

Certain observers believe that there is a strong possibility that the idea will be set in motion once President Reagan and Soviet leader Gorbachev agree on the issue during their meeting in Washington next month.

What causes astonishment is Shamir's remark that Jordan is a Palestinian state and that he will not allow the establishment of another one. In his extremism Shamir went so far as to draw up a map of the area at will. Anyway, extremism and intransigence are not new to the Israeli prime minister.

Paper Lauds 'Boldness' of Glider Pilot

NC270953 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2240 GMT 26 Nov 87

[Text] Cairo, 26 Nov (MENA)—The *Al-Jumhuriyah* newspaper has described the suicide operation carried out by one of the Palestinian fedayeen against a military base in Qiryat Shemona as an expression of despair in the future by a young man who found that the only way to show his love for his kinfolk and homeland was to die in the enemy's embrace.

In its editorial published in tomorrow's issue, the paper added that, despite the Israeli forces' blackout on this episode, news of the operation and the reaction to it took the lead in radio and television newscasts worldwide. The paper attributed the reasons for this to the daringness and boldness of the Palestinian eagle who landed in the lion's den, despite all the risks.

The paper noted Egypt's constant warnings against Israel's continuation of its inhuman practices in the occupied territories, thinking that these measures could ensure its control over these areas. In this respect, the paper stressed that the solution to the long dispute in the Middle East lines in expediting the convening of an international peace conference under the aegis of the UN, to be attended by all the parties concerned, including the PLO.

In conclusion, the paper expressed its astonishment at the Israeli Government's (?intransigence) toward this solution, contrary to what the entire world and some of the important political forces inside Israel believe.

Ghali Welcomes U.S.-USSR Disarmament Accord

NC251933 Cairo MENA in English 1502 GMT 25 Nov 87

[Text] Cairo, Nov 25 (MENA)—Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Dr. Butrus Ghali expressed Egypt's welcome of news of an agreement between the U.S. and the Soviet Union on "a complete formula" of the treaty of removing medium range nuclear missiles from Europe which will be signed at the Reagan-Gorbachev summit in Washington on December 7.

This agreement, Dr. Ghali said will be a precendent and a start which might lead to nuclear disarmament.

Egypt's interest in this historical event emanated from its deep faith that nuclear weapons constitute a grave danger to humanity and largely hamper the people's development progress and prosperity, Dr. Ghali added.

Japanese Deputy Foreign Minister Pays Visit

Holds Talks

NC251511 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1345 GMT 25 Nov 87

[Text] Cairo, 25 Nov (MENA)—Deputy Foreign Minister Wafa' Hijazi and Japanese Deputy Foreign Minister Takakazu Kuriyama chaired a session of Egyptian-Japanese talks this afternoon.

Following the meeting, Ambassador Hijazi said the talks dealt with recent Middle East and Gulf area developments, and that the Egyptian side briefed the Japanese officials on Egypt's intensive efforts to convene an international conference to resolve the Middle East issue. The Japanese officials, he added, voiced their support for Egypt's efforts and for the convening of an international conference. Hijazi disclosed that the conferees exchanged views on the Gulf war and agreed that a cease-fire must be reached and UN Resolution 598 should be fully implemented, as it is the only means to put an end to this destructive war in the region. Hijazi added that the Egyptian side briefed the Japanese delegation on Egypt's contacts with those involved in the Gulf problem and on Egypt's efforts to convince the two parties to respond to international efforts to end the war and implement Resolution 598. The Japanese officials, he said, welcomed the Amman Arab summit results and the resumption of diplomatic relations between Egypt and most of the Arab countries, a step which is a positive phenomenon in the region representing a phase in the process of reconciliation between Arab views. The resumption of relations between Egypt and these Arab countries also represents a staging point for achieving peace in the region.

In conclusion, Hijazi noted that the conferees discussed bilateral relations and that the two sides expressed their full satisfaction with the progress of relations between the two countries and agreed that they should continue their efforts to boost these relations.

The Japanese deputy foreign minister arrived from Baghdad yesterday at the head of a delegation for a 2-day visit.

Meets 'Abd al-Majid

NC252004 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1930 GMT 25 Nov 87

[Text] Cairo, 25 Nov (MENA)—Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, tonight received Takakazu Kuriyama, Japanese deputy foreign minister, and his accompanying delegation. He discussed with the Japanese, who are currently in Cairo, bilateral ties as well as international issues of common concern.

The Japanese handed 'Abd al-Majid an invitation from Japanese Foreign Minister Noboru Takeshita [title as received] to visit Japan. Dr 'Abd al-Majid gladly accepted the invitation. The date of the visit will be decided on later.

Departs 26 Nov

NC262256 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2225 GMT 26 Nov 87

[Text] Cairo, 26 Nov (MENA)—Japanese Deputy Foreign Minister Takakazu Kuriyama and his accompanying delegation left Cairo this evening, following a 2-day official visit to Egypt. While in Cairo, the delegation members held talks with an Egyptian team led by Deputy Foreign Minister Wafa' Hijazi. The talks centered on bilateral relations, the international situation, particularly the Gulf war, and recent developments in the Middle East. The delegation members arrived in Cairo on Tuesday from Baghdad.

Sidqi To Chair Delegation to OAU Summit

NC260706 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 0500 GMT 26 Nov 87

[Text] Meetings of the African economy ministers will begin in Addis Ababa today to discuss Africa's debt problem. Egypt will be represented at the conference by Dr Maurice Makramallah, minister of state of international cooperation.

Meetings of the African foreign ministers are expected to begin in Addis Ababa tomorrow to discuss the debt issue and prepare for the OAU summit conference to be held on Sunday. Dr Butrus Ghali, minister of state for foreign affairs, will represent Egypt at these meetings.

President Husni Mubarak has asked Prime Minister Dr 'Atif Sidqi to chair the Egyptian delegation to the OAU summit because he has other obligations at this time.

Ghali Leaves for Addis Ababa

NC270825 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 0500 GMT 27 Nov 87

[Text] Dr Butrus Ghali, minister of state for foreign affairs, left Cairo for Addis Ababa this morning to attend the African foreign ministers conference due to begin today. The conference will prepare for the OAU extraordinary summit that will open in Addis Ababa on Sunday.

In a pre-departure statement, Dr Ghali said that the OAU summit will discuss Africa's debts, which amount to $200 billion. He added that Egypt will submit a working paper on this problem. He called on international finance organizations to give facilities to the African states to enable them to settle these debts and implement their development projects.

Ghali said that, after the OAU summit, he will pay a visit to Madagascar to attend the meetings of the joint Egyptian-Malagasy Committee, which will discuss strengthening bilateral relations in all fields. He added that he will deliver a hand-written message from President Mubarak to the president of Madagascar.

Mercenaries Reportedly Protecting Al-Qadhdhafi

NC262242 Cairo Voice of the Arabs in Arabic 2040 GMT 26 Nov 87

[From the "Voice of the Libyan People" program]

[Text] According to sources close to the Libyan leadership, approximately 800 Lebanese mercenaries have arrived in Libya. These mercenaries had been transported by car from Lebanon to Syria and then flown to Libya by way of Damascus Airport.

The sources added that Colonel al-Qadhdhafi has given secret instructions to select from among these men those who possess special qualifications and to assign them the task of protecting him. These instructions fall within the framework of the strict security measures now in force, in view of Al-Qadhdhafi's rising fear of the Armed Forces and his personal guards.

It was also noted that the recent reports that the Lebanese mercenaries had been recruited to fight in the Chad war are untrue. Col al-Qadhdhafi, according to the same sources, has resorted to this claim in order to cover up the real objective behind the recruitment of these mercenaries.

It should be noted that the recruitment of these mercenaries had been arranged by some figures close to Col al-Qadhdhafi. Each recruiter receives a sum ranging from $800 to $1,500 per month to carry out his assigned tasks. Some sources have revealed that the files accompanying the mercenaries indicate tht 200 of them belong to the Lebanese Communist Party, 150 to the Arab Democratic Party, 300 to the PSP, 50 to the Al-Murabitun [Independent Nasirite Movement], and 50 others to the Nasirite Popular Organization.

Ghali Confers With Argentine Minister 25 Nov

NC251617 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1440 GMT 25 Nov 87

[Excerpt] Cairo, 25 Nov (MENA)—Dr Butrus Ghali, minister of state for foreign affairs, received today George Louis Kaminoto, Argentine minister for foreign trade for the Qurtubah Governorate [name and title as received], who is currently visiting Cairo. During the meeting, they discussed ways of promoting bilateral relations in the political and economic areas, as well as the means of reviving the existing agreements between Egypt and Argentina. [passage omitted].

Talks With EEC Delegation Conclude

NC261827 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1515 GMT 26 Nov 87

[Excerpt] Cairo, 26 Nov (MENA)—At the conclusion of their talks in Cairo today Egypt and an EEC delegation agreed that the funds allocated in the Third Protocol for Financial and Technical Cooperation signed by them and estimated at 449 million European units of account—1.140 billion Egyptian pounds—will be appropriated as loans and grants as well as contributions toward capital risk compensation for small and medium projects. Under the agreement to finance various sectors of the economy in accordance with the Second 5-Year Development Plan, the funds provided in the protocol will be appropriated as follows: 249 million European units of account will be in the form of loans from the European Investment Bank; 189 million units will be given as a grant; and 11 million units as a contribution toward capital risk compensation for small and medium projects. This protocol will be valid for 5 years, as of October 1987, at which time it was signed by both parties. [passage omitted]

Debt Rescheduling Accord Reached With FRG

LD261006 Hamburg DPA in German 0941 GMT 26 Nov 87

[Excerpt] Cairo, 26 Nov (DPA)—The FRG is the third creditor country—after the United States and France—to reach agreement with Egypt on the rescheduling of its outstanding debts to the value of DM850 million (of which DM230 million are Hermes [export credit bank] guaranteed trade credits). It was confirmed in Cairo today that the credits will be rescheduled over a period of 10 years, with 5 years free from payment. Federal Foreign Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher intends to sign the agreement during his planned visit to Cairo early December. [passage omitted]

Minister, Finnish Envoy Discuss Economic Ties

NC251919 Cairo MENA in English 1415 GMT 25 Nov 87

[Text] Cairo, Nov. 25 (MENA)—Dr. Jalal Abu al-Dhahab, minister of supply and home trade, conferred here today with the Finnish ambassador here on ways to boost economic cooperation between the two countries besides the possibility of a Finnish contribution to the setting up of a grain silo of the capacity of 6.000 tons in Aswan, upper Egypt.

They also discussed ways to benefit from the Finnish programme for foodstuff provided by the Finnish Government either directly or through the UN organizations.

The Finnish ambassador said his country extended approximately 60 rpt 60 million dollars in credit facilities to Egypt during the past three years.

The Finnish minister of trade visits Egypt in March at the invitation of the Egyptian minister of industry, the ambassador said, noting that the issues of interest to the Ministry of Supply will be discussed during the two sides' talks.

Qatari Education Minister Arrives 25 Nov

NC251536 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1445 GMT 25 Nov 87

[Excerpt] Cairo, 25 Nov (MENA)—Qatari Minister of Education Shaykh Muhammad ibn Hamad al Thani arrived in Cairo this afternoon for a visit of several days. In a statement upon arrival, he voiced his affection and appreciation to the Egyptian president, government, and people. [passage omitted]

Education Minister Discusses Reform Projects

NC251900 Cairo MENA in English 1750 GMT 25 Nov 87

[Text] Washington, Nov. 25 (MENA)—Egyptian Education Minister Dr. Ahmad Fathi Surur held a meeting today with a group of an education group of the U.S. aid to discuss education reform projects in Egypt during the first year of the Second Five-Year Plan.

Dr. Surur also met with senior officials of the World Bank to probe the prospects of the bank's financing of the five-year plan education projects.

Dr. Surur said that during his visit to the United States and France he obtained the necessary finance and technical expertise for setting up five technology faculties in Egypt.

The Egyptian minister added that he also got a soft loan during his visit to the two countries totalling about 73 million dollars from the African Development Fund.

Dr. Surur will leave Washington for home tomorrow, ending a six-day visit.

Libya

Ndjamena 'Fabrications' on Border Clash Denied

LD251450 Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic 1330 GMT 25 Nov 87

[Text] A source at the People's Committee of the People's Bureau for Foreign Liaison has issued the following statement:

Ndjamena radio has broadcast a statement by the chief of staff of agent Habre to the effect that a column of Libyan forces attacked Chad from Chad's eastern border with Sudan, that the fighting continued for 2 days, and that Chad believes five attackers were killed.

We respond to these lies that were circulated through statements that Chadian officials have been making for several weeks:

First, we completely deny the Ndjamena allegations. There was no such attack. Since there are no Libyan forces on Sudanese territory, claims that these men were used in the attack, as alleged by Ndjamena, are thus invalid.

Second, the tone of lies and fabrications is clear in the statement. It says that the attack was carried out from the eastern border with Sudan, that the fighting lasted for 2 days, and that five attackers were killed. The least that can be said about the language used here, based on lies and deception, is that it lacks imagination on the part of those circulating these claims, even if they are telling lies.

Third, it is now clear to the domestic public in Chad, Africa, and the world at large that the most dangerous threat to the authority of the Chadian capital is stability, a calm situation, and giving the OAU the opportunity to find a peaceful solution to the problem. Therefore, Habre and his chief of staff, who have cannot face the domestic situation and the sharp conflict shaking them, are resorting to spreading lies to conceal the real, deteriorating situation in Chad.

Fourth, the allegations coming from Chadian officials confirm two things:

Preparations for launching a fresh attack against the territory of the Jamahiriyah, and resorting to fabricating an imaginary attack on Chad, are nothing but a justification for such aggression.

Also, a fresh act of aggression or an escalation of the situation would be carried out in implementing orders from the United States. Habre and those with him have become tools for U.S. policy on the continent. The target of these lies remains the efforts made by the OAU chairman and the good offices of the [OAU] commission to resolve the Chadian conflict peacefully.

VOA Report on Ties With Chicago 'Gang' Refuted

LD261032 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1930 GMT 25 Nov 87

[Text] Tripoli, 25 Nov (JANA)—JANA's international affairs editor has refuted a VOA report on the existence of a link between Libya and one of the gangs recently put on trial in Chicago.

The editor stated it is regrettable that one must stoop to the level of replying to these allegations. The least that can be said about them is they are lies that are familiar to those who spread them. However, it will do no harm to clarify the following:

1. VOA's statement has only one aim, and that is to involve the name of the Jamahiriyah in a naive and usual attempt to discredit it before the United States and international public opinion.

2. This report is a part of the lies and misrepresentation that characterize the policy of the U.S. Administration. This is markedly true since the advent of Reagan. He has become a source of ridicule and mockery for Americans themselves, especially after the scandal of lies and fabrications revealed following the April 1986 aggression against the Great Jamahiriyah. The stench of this act still filis the air of the White House and the State Department.

3. VOA discusses what it termed the Chicago gang as if American society has suddenly donned the cloak of decency. The emergence of the Chicago gang was a strange discovery that required implicating an external power and thus holding it responsible for this gang's appearance.

The editor concluded by declaring that these kinds of allegations have become so trivial and so absurd that no one is crazy enough to believe them. They can best be described as resembling a scratchy gramophone record that does nothing for anyone except cause annoyance and distaste.

Al-Qadhdhafi Meets Egyptian Labor Party Leader

LD271026 Tripoli JANA in English 0930 GMT 27 Nov 87

[Text] Tripoli, Al-Harth [November] 27th, *Jamahiriyah News Agency*—The leader of the revolution has received lawyer Ahmad Mujahid, vice-leader of the Egyptian Labour Party who is currently on a visit to Great Jamahiriyah with the purview of efforts exerted to promote ties between the masses of one people in the two countries and also to follow up the interests of the Egyptian Arab nationals in Great Jamahiriyah within the framework of serving the pan-Arab objectives.

Sudan

Al-Ummah Party Announces General 'Mobilization'

JN251743 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1713 GMT 25 Nov 87

[Text] Khartoum, 25 Nov (SUNA)—The General Secretariat of the Al-Ummah Party issued a statement here today announcing a comprehensive mobilization at all levels to confront the flagrant aggression being perpetrated by foreign elements and agents. The statement reiterated that the masses of the party fully support the quest of the Armed Forces to liberate Kurmuk. It appealed to the masses to remain alert and to boost morale to help liberate the territories.

The party statement referred to the criminal operations previously carried out by the rebel forces in a number of cities and villages. These operations included the downing of a civilian aircraft and the recent attack on relief trains at the Aryat [name as received] station. The statement called on the masses to stand united to secure the internal front.

Ba'th Party Supports Call

JN261845 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1715 GMT 26 Nov 87

[Text] Khartoum, 26 Nov (SUNA)—The Arab Socialist Ba'th Party has reiterated its full support for the general mobilization measures. It announced that it is placing all of its potential and capabilities at the disposal of the Armed Forces.

Badr al-Din Muddaththir, secretary general of the party's regional command, announced this today following his meeting with the chairman of the State Council and its members. This session is part of the meetings it is holding with different political forces.

Badr al-Din welcomed the initiative of the State Council, which took the form of visiting Al-Damazin. He additionally praised its efforts to unify the national will to confront the dangerous situation resulting from foreign aggression. He stated that his party has always advocated peace, that it rejects and denounces the military escalation carried out by the John Garang movement, and that it also opposes foreign intervention.

Badr al-Din called for unifying the efforts that seek to support the Armed Forces under central supervision, and for preventing these efforts from falling prey to political one-upmanship. He advocated leaving the issue of liberating Kurmuk and specifying the requirements involved, in terms of time and capabilities, to the Armed Forces. This will prevent the issue from being manipulated by considerations of politics, information, or mobilization.

In discussing security measures in the cities, Badr al-Din stated that only official agencies should carry these out. He said they should do this quietly and without resorting to search operations and exaggerations that spread doubt and panic. He also called for convening the constitutional conference without having this issue tied to the participation of John Garang.

Libyan Envoy Denies Military Presence in Darfur

JN261119 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1030 GMT 26 Nov 87

[Text] Khartoum, 26 Nov (SUNA)—Jum'ah al-Fazzani, head of the Libyan Brotherhood Bureau in Khartoum, has denied that Libya has any military presence in Darfur Province. He stated that Libya cannot possibly seek to arouse sedition against the present Sudanese regime, for it is the offspring of common Sudanese-Libyan struggle.

Al-Fazzani told the *Al-Sudani* newspaper, in a statement published here today, that certain international and regional forces consider the eternal ties between Sudan and the Jamahiriyah to be a threat to their interests. He said that the nature of the relationship between Darfur and Al-Kufrah [in Libya] lies outside the system of governments. This is in view of the historical link [words indistinct] that has given this tie a form of integration between the two regions. Al-Fazzani said that the Jamahiriyah is participating in a number of agricultural and supply projects in Darfur Province. He added: A convoy is now headed to Al-Junaynah. It carries tractors, bulldozers, a (?generator) to electrify the town, and cement for paving roads. Some 10,000 cartons of medicine have arrived in the towns of Fashir and Maleit. There are also several other convoys carrying provisions for citizens.

Al-Fazzani concluded: The intensive activities of these convoys have instead been construed as a Libyan military presence.

SPLA Denies Ethiopian, Cuban Role at Kurmuk

EA261753 (Clandestine) Radio of the Sudanese People's Liberation Army in English 1300 GMT 26 Nov 87

[Text] Yesterday evening, in the so-called Armed Forces Program, Omdurman radio played a forged interview with an alleged SPLA soldier captured in Kurmuk. In that interview, the man alleged that there were nearly a company of Ethiopian Army and a company of Cubans that attacked Kurmuk with the SPLA troops.

In response to these allegations, the official spokesman for the SPLA High Command said that the Khartoum's allegations were false, intentionally done to divert the Sudanese masses' attention and to deceive the soldiers who have been ordered to recapture Kurmuk that there will not be resistance in capturing Kurmuk.

If the Khartoum army were capable of capturing SPLA soldiers, why did they leave behind their wounded and all their heavy guns, said the spokesman. The spokesman made it clear to the Khartoum soldiers coming to attack Kurmuk that they are being deceived into their deaths, adding that the SPLA is armed to the teeth to defend Kurmuk and the Khartoum troops will find this out if they venture to come, says the spokesman.

Tunisia

Ammar Comments on Arms Seizures, Coup Arrests

LD252121 Tunis Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 25 Nov 87

[Text] Minister of Interior Habib Ammar held a news conference this morning at the headquarters of his ministry. He reviewed the case of the gang of malefactors, the discovery of which was announced in a communique issued last Monday [23 November].

The minister stated that since last September, following a tip, the national security services have focused their attention, within the framework of their normal duties, on the dubious movements of certain persons.

The original investigations established that secret meetings and contacts had been held between some military and civilian elements, as well as other elements from the internal security and the customs services. Minister Ammar added that the national security services had been able, since 16 November, to seize a number of individual weapons, ammunition, and a quantity of explosives and communications equipment.

The minister pointed out that these weapons, explosives, ammunition, and equipment include the following: 8 machineguns, 3 old German machineguns, 10 revolvers and silencers, 41 small- and large-caliber magazines, 5 new hand grenades, 24 boxes of explosives, 3 sets of telecommunications equipment, and 1 400-watt, long-distance radio transmitter.

The minister of interior stated that these arms and equipment were seized along with Ali Haydri, a policeman; Amor Mokni, a staff sergeant in the National Guard; Salah Abdi, a sergeant in the Army; Ahmed Sleimi, a captain in the Army; Abdellah Gheriss, a police inspector; Mohamed Salah Laftini, a police inspector; (Burni Ouerttei), a customs officer; and Taher Bassous, an emigrant in Germany.

Ammar added that the investigation has shown that Sayed Ferjani brought in most of the equipment and arms from West Germany over the last few months. Ferjani owns a video shop in Tunis. The arms and equipment were smuggled into the country in two stages, with the cooperation of Taher Bessous. The first shipment was brought in through Tunis-La Goulette Harbor last September.

The minister also stated that it had been established that Sayed Ferjani had purchased the gas canisters in France after Habib Mokni gave him the funds to do this. The canisters were left with Mokni, who smuggled them into the country.

This gas finally reached Mohamed Chemmam. He was recently [captured and] tried by the State Security Court, which had earlier sentenced him in absentia to 20 years at hard labor. Chemmam gave these gas canisters to Sayed Ferjani to hide in a secure place. The latter consequently hid them with the soldier Salah Abdi.

The minister pointed out that this gang of malefactors intended to carry out terrorist acts to assassinate a number of state officials. They also sought to attack civilian and military installations. These included the security barracks at Bu Shushah, the National Guard barracks at Al-Uwaynah, and the headquarters of the Ministry of Interior. The intention was to disrupt security and spread chaos and unrest in the country.

At the start of November, Sayed Ferjani met with Salah Karkar in London. Ferjani has lived there since fleeing Tunisia. He told Karkar about the terrorist acts that had been agreed upon.

Habib Ammar pointed out that one of the detainees, the soldier Ahmed Sleimi, had smuggled out Abdelmajid Mili in accordance with plans made by Sayed Ferjani. Mili had been sentenced to death by the State Security Court.

It was also established that Sayed Ferjani was the person who, with the assistance of a customs officer, planned the operation to smuggle out Salah Karkar and then Hamadi Jebali. This was done by using two false passports forged by Djebali Ben Hassen.

Minister Ammar announced that so far 73 persons whose involvement in this affair has been established have been arrested. Investigations into this case are continuing, thus making it necessary to refrain from divulging certain details.

The minister of interior stressed the dependability of the various sections of the Army, as well as those of the internal security and the customs services. He pointed out that the number of those involved in this case is very small. These persons are the odd men out in these organs, which are renowned for their discipline, commitment, and their devotion to respecting the law and protecting institutions as well as individual and collective gains.

In the second part of the news conference, which was attended by Minister of Information Abdelwaheb Abdallah and senior officials from the Ministry of Interior, Habib Ammar fielded questions from newsmen and representatives of the national and foreign media. In discussing the political leanings of the elements implicated, he noted that this case involves purely a question of security. All those implicated will be brought to justice and tried for their crimes, regardless of their political affiliation.

When asked whether the exposure of this gang would end the infiltration of extremist elements into the Army and the security services, the minister stated: We believe we have succeeded in deciphering the codes to the case. We will take all necessary measures so that this type of event will not recur.

When asked whether 73 persons could actually have been capable of overthrowing the regime, Minister Ammar anwered no. He added that all these persons could do would be to shed blood for no purpose and create an atmosphere of terror. In discussing the possibility of a retrial for elements of the so-called Islamic Tendency Movement, Habib Ammar pointed out that the two cases are distinct from one another. Anyone implicated in the current case will be tried for his crime even if he has already been tried on other charges.

In answering whether official foreign sectors that have an interest in spreading chaos in Tunisia were behind the gang, the minister of interior answered: Investigations at this point do not permit the accusation of any official foreign quarters. At the same time, he stressed that contacts between the members of this gang and foreign elements did exist.

In addition, Minister Ammar denied that this gang had different branches inside the Republic. He emphasized that there is no link between the creation of the National Security Council and the uncovering of this terrorist network. The minister stressed that the council was formed within the context of maintaining the internal and external security of the state, as well as strengthening its constituents.

The Ministry of Interior displayed samples of the arms, ammunition, explosives, and telecommunications equipment confiscated from the gang members. Photographs of some of the elements implicated in this case were also exhibited.

Prime Minister Baccouche Departs for Algeria

LD251427 Tunis Domestic Service in Arabic
1300 GMT 25 Nov 87

[Text] Prime Minister Hedi Baccouche left Tunis for Algiers this morning. He is taking a message from President Zine El Abidine Ben Ali to his brother, President Chadli Bendjedid. The prime minister was accompanied by Messaoud Ait Chalal, the Algerian ambassador to Tunis.

Western Sahara

Information Ministry Announces 20-Day 'Truce'

LD241915 Algiers Domestic Service in French
1800 GMT 24 Nov 87

[Text] There will be a unilateral truce on the part of the Polisario Front in Western Sahara from 25 November to 15 December 1987. This was announced this evening by the Saharan Ministry of Information.

This is an act of goodwill that consists of ceasing all military operations against the Moroccan occupation forces in their current positions, both in Western Sahara and in the southern part of Moroccan territory. The truce is to last 20 days. The SDAR Government decided to declare the truce with the aim of guaranteeing the safety of the UN-OAU joint technical mission during its stay in the occupied and liberated regions. This will assist it in accomplishing its tasks.

Inter-Gulf Affairs

Iranian Speedboat Attacks Romanian Tanker

NC261130 Paris AFP in English 1123 GMT 26 Nov 87

[Text] Manama, Nov 26 (AFP)—A Romanian oil tanker, the "*Dacia*," was attacked early on Thursday by an Iranian speedboat off the Emirate of Dubayy in the south of the Gulf, and suffered a fire but no crew casualties, maritime sources in the region said.

The attack occurred at 11:15 a.m. (0855 GMT) when the "*Dacia*" was at 25.27 degrees north and 55.18 degrees west, putting it 30 kilometres (nearly 20 miles) off Dubayy.

Fire broke out aboard the 86,094-ton deadweight vessel, but was immediately brought under control by the crew.

It was the second reported Iranian attack on a Romanian vessel in four days.

On Monday, the tanker "*Fundulea*" was hit near the Strait of Hormuz, and four crew were wounded, in a similar attack.

Such Iranian attacks on neutral shipping usually follow Iraqi raids against Iranian ships or ships chartered by Iran.

But Iraq has not announced any attack in the Gulf since Saturday.

Maritime sources said that during last week, Iranian aircraft hit two Iranian tankers, a third one flying the flag of Panama, and a tug.

On Monday, Iranian speedboats also attacked a container ship under the flag of Panama, the "*Uni-Master*", in waters near the Strait of Hormuz.

Kuwait

Paper on 'Heroic' Palestinian Glider Operation

LD271119 Kuwait KUNA in English 1013 GMT 27 Nov 87

[Text] Kuwait, Nov 27 (KUNA)—A Kuwaiti daily Friday said the "Palestinian falcon" responded to the "homeland's cry" and penetrated the Israeli defences in spite of the so-called "secure borders."

Commenting on last Wednesday's daring and heroic operation during which six Israeli soldiers were killed and eight others injured, *Al-Qabas* newspaper said the Palestinian commando was guided by the homeland to fulfil his mission and to surpass all hurdles.

Joy overwhelmed the Arab world, and in particular the Palestinian refugee camps, which are the expected targets for a Zionist reprisal, the paper said.

While maintaining high morale over "the unprecedented unique struggle we can't but record our grief and pain for the continuation of the Gulf war, without which the dream of liberation would have been greater and short coming," *Al-Qabas* noted.

To accomplish his mission, the Palestinian commando used a simple handglider to defeat the sophisticated Zionist war machine with style.

'Incendiary Material' Causes Fire Near Office

LD251839 Kuwait Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 25 Nov 87

[Text] An official security source at the Ministry of Interior told KUNA that a small fire broke out near the American life insurance company at approximately 1545. This firm is located on the third floor of the Al-Madinah apartment building on Mubarak al-Kabir Street.

The source indicated that damage was confined to the door of this office. He added that an initial investigation into the incident suggested that the fire was caused by incendiary material planted near the office door. The security authorities have begun the necessary investigations.

PDRY

Political Bureau Reviews Talks With YAR

EA251559 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 25 Nov 87

[Text] The Political Bureau of the YSP Central Committee met this morning. It was chaired by Brother 'Ali Salim al-Bid, secretary general of the YSP Central Committee. The meeting reviewed the progress of preparations and the start of activities for mass and official celebrations of the 20th anniversary of national independence.

The Political Bureau commended the intensive efforts being made by workers, peasants, members of cooperatives, soldiers, students, and all workers and toilers to implement the economic and social plans. They also praised the participation of these persons in revitalizing these activities, in keeping with their political and historical importance.

The Political Bureau also examined the results of the visit to the northern part of the homeland made by Salih Abu Bakr ibn Husaynun, member of the Central Committee, deputy prime minister, and minister of energy and minerals, and Colonel Haytham Qasim Tahir, member of the Central Committee, first deputy defense minister, and chief of the General Staff. The Political Bureau additionally reviewed their meeting with Brother Colonel 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, president of the Republic,

commander in chief of the Armed Forces, and secretary general of the General People's Congress, and the discussions they held with their counterparts in the northern part of the homeland.

The Political Bureau expressed its pleasure with these results, which are in keeping with the aspirations of our Yemeni people and the desire to preserve the stability between the two parts. It stressed the importance of continuing the brotherly dialogue on the possibility of joint investments in the petroleum and minerals sector. This will assist accelerated comprehensive development and will help in taking practical steps for achieving Yemeni unity on a peaceful and democratic basis.

Prisoner Release To Mark Independence Day

EA270943 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 26 Nov 87

[Excerpts] The Presidium of the People's Supreme Council held its 14th session this afternoon. It was chaired by Brother Haydar Abu Bakr al-'Attas, member of the Political Bureau and chairman of the Presidium of the Supreme People's Council. [passage omitted]

It also took note of a memorandum on the cases of prisoners. This measure was submitted by Brother Brigadier Salih Munassar al-Siyayli, member of the Political Bureau, deputy chairman of the Council of Ministers, and minister of interior and the Directorate of Prisons. After a thorough discussion, a resolution was adopted releasing a number of prisoners and reducing the sentences of others. This is in view of certain principles and measures, including the nature of the cases of those imprisoned and the [word indistinct] and conduct of those serving sentences.

The Presidium adopted this resolution on the occasion of the 20th anniversary of glorious national independence. [passage omitted]

Spokesman Threatens Strikes Against Tehran

JN261902 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1837 GMT 25 Nov 87

[Text] Baghdad, 25 Nov (INA)—'Abd al-Jabbar Muhsin, the Iraqi military spokesman, has responded to a statement made by Iranian War Minister Mohsen Rafiqdust to the *KEYHAN* newspaper on deploying new surface-to-surface missiles to strike at Iraqi cities. He made a statement to INA this evening in which he said: We might strike at Tehran with missiles or planes or both if Iran continues its policy of striking at cities. He added that Iraq's retaliation will be violent, comprehensive, and destructive in light of its huge destructive capabilities and its ability to reach any target in Iran, particularly Tehran, the capital.

Reportage on Gulf War Combat Operations

'Very Large Maritime Target' Hit

JN270701 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 0650 GMT 27 Nov 87

[Statement by Iraqi military spokesman dated 27 November]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. In continuation of the splendid victories our heroic Air Froce is scoring to destroy the mainstays of aggression and sever the oil supplies which the treacherous charlatan clique ruling Iran uses to commit aggression against our country, our aircraft carried out a successful raid against a very large maritime target off the Iranian coast at 2130 [1830 GMT] yesterday. After scoring an effective and accurate hit, our aircraft returned safely to base, God be praised.

[Dated] 27 November 1987

Qal'at Dizah Shelled

JN270856 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0847 GMT 27 Nov 87

[Text] Baghdad, 27 Nov (INA)—Residential quarters in Qal'at Dizah in northern Iraq were the target of long-range Iranian artillery shelling yesterday evening. An Iraqi military spokesman told INA today that two women and two children were martyred and seven citizens, including four women and one child, were wounded by the enemy shelling.

Communique No 2,928

JN251813 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 25 Nov 87

[Communique No 2.928 issued by the Armed Forces General Command on 25 November]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. Our victorious Armed Forces continued to implement their heroic combat activities last night and today. They inflicted on our country's Zionist Khomeyniite enemies further losses as follows:

1. The rapacious hawks carried out 71 combat missions today. They inflicted new losses on the enemy in personnel, weapons, and equipment. Afterward, they returned with their planes safely to base in God's care.

2. Our helicopter gunships carried out 94 combat missions today, inflicting important losses on enemy concentrations, weapons, and positions. They then returned safely to base, God be praised.

3. In the I Army Corps northern sector, 27 enemy personnel were killed, 2 pickets were destroyed, 2 vehicles were set ablaze, and 1 vehicle was damaged.

4. An enemy soldier was killed, one infantry position and one observation post were destroyed, and one ammunition dump was blown up in the II Army Corps central sector.

5. An enemy observation post was destroyed and one ammunition dump was blown up in the III Army Corps sector east of Al-Basrah.

6. One infantry position was destroyed and its occupants were killed in the IV Army Corps sector east of Maysan. One of our patrols in the same sector found six RPT-7 launchers, eight rifles of various types, and one (PKC) machinegun abandoned by the enemy in previous battles in no-man's-land.

7. One observation post and one machinegun were destroyed and six vehicles were set ablaze and destroyed in the V Army Corps northern sector.

8. One infantry position was destroyed and its men killed or injured in the VI Army Corps sector east of the Tigris.

9. Our units in the VII Army Corps sector opened fire on opposite enemy positions and achieved the following:

a. Three scoundrels killed and three infantry positions and one observation post destroyed.

b. One 106-mm gun destroyed and one vehicle set ablaze and destroyed.

c. Two shovels damaged.

10. Five enemy boats attempted to approach Al-'Amiq port last night. The brave port force confronted them and forced them to flee.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 25 November 1987

Communique No 2,929

JN261737 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 26 Nov 87

[Communique No 2,929 issued by the Armed Forces General Command on 26 November]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. Our Armed Forces protect our rights. Through their persistent struggle, they have continued their confrontation of the despotic aggressors. They have inflicted more losses. The results of the activities undertaken by our forces last night and today are as follows:

1. Throughout the day, our heroic Air Force aircraft continued their successful raids on enemy units. In 73 combat missions, our aircraft sent to death many scoundrels in their assembly points and destroyed their equipment and weapons. Our aircraft then returned safely to base in God's care and protection.

2. Our daring helicopter gunships carried out 54 combat sorties, inflicting new losses on our country's enemies. They then returned safely to base, praise be to God.

3. In the V Army Corps northern sector, formations of our brave units carried out heroic activities against the enemy units opposite them. The devastating fire of our brave soldiers inflicted important losses on the Zionist Khomeyniites in addition to the following confirmed losses: 70 scoundrels killed and many others wounded; 36 infantry positions, 1 personnel shelter, and 11 observation posts destroyed; 5 vehicles of various types burned and destroyed; 1 tank destroyed; and a number of ammunition dumps blown up.

4. In the I Army Corps northern sector, one infantry position and one observation post were destroyed.

5. In the Special I Army Corps sector—the Allahu Akbar Forces—three enemy personnel were killed and one infantry position was destroyed.

6. In the II Army Corps central sector, five scoundrels were killed.

7. In the III Army Corps sector east of Al-Basrah, one vehicle was set on fire and two ammunition dumps were destroyed.

8. In the IV Army Corps sector east of Maysan, one heavy machinegun, one vehicle, and two infantry positions were destroyed.

9. In the VI Army Corps sector east of Tigris, one ammunition dump was blown up and one vehicle was destroyed.

10. In the VII Army Corps sector, two enemy personnel were killed, one 60-mm mortar and four personnel shelters were destroyed, and three ammunition dumps were blown up.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 26 November 1987

Iranian Liberation Army Operations Reported

7 Battalions 'Destroyed'

JN261301 Baghdad INA in English 1155 GMT 26 Nov 87

[Text] Baghdad, Nov 26, INA—The National Liberation Army of Iran (NLA) continued its military operations against the Iranian troops and Khomeyni Guards positions.

In a major offensive the NLA have killed or injured over 3,000 Iranian troops and Khomeyni Guards. About 300 men of the Iranian troops, were taken prisoners and 10 tanks were destroyed in a 36 hour battle in north-west Iran, Al-Mojahed radio, organ of the opposition Iranian organization of Mojahedin-e Khalq said.

In a broadcast monitored here today the radio added that seven Iranian Army battalions had been destroyed in the offensive mounted by the NLA, fighting for the removal of Khomeyni regime.

Several strategic heights in the Piran Shahr area were captured the radio said. The NLA also seized heavy and medium machineguns and anti-aircraft guns. A commando battalion of the Iranian troops was destroyed, it added.

The NLA suffered 12 casualties according to the radio which said that the Iranian regime figure of 150 dead was false. It said that a television film of the battle would be casseted and distributed to different parts of the world.

The names of the 300 prisoners, including officers taken during the battle, would be released shortly, the radio stressed.

1,500 Iranian Troops Killed

JN251434 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1300 GMT 25 Nov 87

[Text] Paris, 25 Nov (INA)—The Iranian National Liberation Army [INLA] forces have inflicted massive losses on the forces of the Iranian regime over the last 2 days. According to the Iranian opposition Mojahedin-e Khalq organization, INLA forces inflicted a number of casualties among the Iranian regime's forces, including the deaths of its officers, NCO's, and soldiers, during a fierce 36-hour battle with Division 64 east of Beransh [name as received] in northwest of Iran.

The organization affirmed that the losses among the Iranian forces in this battle amounted to 1,500 killed and 1,130 injured, while 310 Iranian regime personnel were taken captive.

The Iranian opposition Mojahedin-e Khalq organization said that the INLA forces had destroyed seven regiments of the Iranian regime's Division 64. The INLA forces also set fire to 25 bases belonging to the Khomeyni regime and killed hundreds of Khomeyni personnel. The organization reported that the INLA forces had seized equipment, heavy and medium weapons, three DSHK guns, one mortar, and Kalashnikov rifles. The organization said that this attack was the second such INLA operation in 48 hours.

Oil Minister Returns From Saudi Arabia Visit

JN251652 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1525 GMT 25 Nov 87

[Text] Baghdad, 25 Nov (INA)—Oil Minister 'Isam 'Abd al-Rahim returned here today following a 2-day visit to Saudi Arabia. In a statement to INA, the minister said that he had held talks with Hisham Nazir, Saudi minister of petroleum and mineral resources. He reported that the talks had centered on relations of cooperation, as well as the topics to be discussed at the next meeting of the OPEC Ministerial Council which is scheduled to be held in Vienna on 9 December. Production and prices in particular were discussed.

The Iraqi official added that the discussions also dealt with the topics of the OAPEC Ministerial Council's meeting, which will begin in Kuwait next Saturday, as well as with the OAPEC plan of action and the ongoing preparations to convene the fourth Arab energy conference scheduled for 14-17 March in Baghdad.

'Abd al-Rahim explained that during the visit he was acquainted with the implementation of the second stage of the Iraqi oil pipeline through Saudi Arabia. The construction contract for the pipeline was signed on 20 September 1987. The minister praised the Saudi efforts and fruitful cooperation in implementing the second stage of the project.

Electric Power To Be Exported to Turkey

JN261049 Baghdad INA in English 1015 GMT 26 Nov 87

[Text] Baghdad, Nov 26, INA—Iraq will shortly enter a new phase of industrial and technological development to become the first electric power exporting country in the Middle East.

Next month will see the export of electric power from Iraq to Turkey initially at a rate of 400 million kilowatt per hour (KWH) following completion of technical arrangements between the two countries for the installation of power lines and power transforming stations in preparation for the commissioning of the first stage.

The project consists of two stages, the first of 70 MW has a capacity of 400 million (KWH), while the second of 500 MW is of 3,000 million (KWH) capacity.

This project, which will turn Iraq for the first time into a power exporting country, is a demonstration of the country's considerable power potential and reserves.

Meanwhile, contacts are underway to draw up technical and feasibility studies on a project to link Iraq and Kuwait by an electric power network.

Recent figures have shown that, though power consumption in Iraq has increased by 14 times since 1968, the power generating potential has been sufficient to meet not only domestic needs but also to export electricity to neighbouring countries.

The Ministry of Heavy Industries is now working on providing electric power to rural areas and improving efficiency of national power-generating network to enable it to meet domestic consumption up to the year 2000.

Recently the ministry signed a contract with a specialized Yugoslav company to build 14 more power transforming stations of a total capacity of 132 kilo volt at a cost of 45 million dollars.

Official figures show that a total of 6,800 villages throughout the country have been provided with electricity over the past 18 years and another 500 are expected to be supplied with power, thus benefiting some 4 million people.

In all these projects Iraq depends on highly sophisticated techniques and on the experience of its technical personnel, whose contribution has been remarkable in achieving the country's industrial progress.

6 IDF Soldiers Killed in 'Terrorist' Attack

IDF Announcement on Attack

TA260521 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew
0503 GMT 26 Nov 87

[Text] The following is an official IDF announcement issued this morning: Six IDF soldiers were killed and seven were wounded by shots fired by a terrorist last night. The terrorist crossed the border with a glider and infiltrated into an IDF encampment, firing his weapon and throwing hand grenades. The terrorist was killed by fire opened by one of the soldiers. The families of the dead and wounded soldiers have been notified.

The incident took place at nearly 2230 [2030 GMT] last night. The terrorist used a glider to enter the Galilee Panhandle area, landing in a thorny field east of Qiryat Shemona. He proceeded toward a nearby encampment. On his way he opened fire at a military vehicle, killing the driver of the vehicle. The terrorist continued on his way, entered a nearby encampment, and began to throw hand grenades at the tents. Five additional soldiers were killed and seven were wounded by the shots. The terrorist himself was killed by shots fired by one of the soldiers. As stated, the families of the dead and wounded have been notified. This has been an announcement by the IDF spokesman.

IDF Reports Further Details

TA260700 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew
0600 GMT 26 Nov 87

[Telephone report by military correspondent Alon Ben-David from Qiryat Shemona—live]

[Excerpts] Following is the sequence of events last night: At around 2230 [2030 GMT] last night, the glider transporting the terrorist landed in a thorny field east of Qiryat Shemona. It was a small motorized glider, 3 meters long, painted red and white. The terrorist apparently set out on his mission from the eastern sector in Lebanon, north of the southern Lebanese security zone. Incidentally, the terrorist, while en route, was identified by IDF soldiers in the security zone. [passage omitted]

Searches were carried out during the night and are under way at present to determine whether there are any additional hostile elements in the area. The site of the incident was lit up with flares throughout the night. Assault helicopters and landed forces combed the area, with Major General Yosi Peled, the commander of the Northern Command, overseeing the searches. The chief of staff and the defense minister visited the site of the incident during the night. As said, six IDF soldiers were killed and another seven were wounded here. The families of the dead and wounded have been notified.

2d 'Terrorist', Glider Found

TA260649 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew
0636 GMT 26 Nov 87

[Text] A report just in: Another glider was discovered early this morning in the security zone in southern Lebanon, north of the Israeli border. In searches carried out in the area, our forces encountered another terrorist and killed him.

More on 2d Glider

TA260848 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew
0835 GMT 26 Nov 87

[Text] It now transpires that two motorized gliders tried to infiltrate Israel simultaneously last night. The glider, which was discovered in the security zone this morning about 500 meters from the Israeli border, was detected in flight yesterday and shot down by IDF soldiers' fire. The second glider managed to cross the border and land safely. IDF officers who reached the site of the incident assessed that approximatley 3 to 4 minutes elapsed between the landing of the glider and the killing of the terrorist.

2 Groups Claim Responsibility

TA260938 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew
0830 GMT 26 Nov 87

[Text] Two terrorist organizations have assumed responsibility for last night's attack in the Galilee Panhandle: the Front for the Liberation of Falastin, led by Muhammad 'Abbas, and Ahmad Jibril's PFLP-GC. The terrorist organizations released their announcements in Beirut and in Damascus. 'Abbas' organization is close to Yasir 'Arafat's, while Jibril's organization is close to Syria. The spokesman of the Jibril organization said in his announcement that the operation was dedicated to Ari'el Sharon who, as the announcement goes, destroyed Arab villages in the northern Galilee area in the 1950's. In the course of the day the organization will convene a news conference in Damascus to give more details on the operation. The announcements by the terrorist organizations were reported by Gay Bekhor.

'Abbas Denies Responsibility

TA261211 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew
1100 GMT 26 Nov 87

[Excerpt] Ahmad Jibril's terrorist organization has taken responsibility for the attack in the Galilee Panhandle. The PFLP-GC Organization has issued its announcement in Damascus.

Meanwhile, the Front for the Liberation of Falastin, Muhammad 'Abbas' organization, has denied a report issued in its name in Beirut this morning claiming that its members perpetrated this attack. [passage omitted]

Chief of Staff on Attack

TA260812 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew
0637 GMT 26 Nov 87

[Interview with Chief of Staff Lieutenant General Dan Shomron by Gay Zohar "a few minutes ago;" place not given—recorded]

[Text] [Zohar] Chief of Staff Dan Shomron, a grave incident took place in the north last night. Do you already have a full picture of exactly what happened?

[Shomron] The picture is quite clear as far as the facts are concerned. A one-man glider penetrated Israeli territory, landing east of Qiryat Shemona. This single terrorist set out toward a military encampment. On his way he fired at a military pickup truck, killing the officer in it. He proceeded toward the encampment where he fired his weapon and threw hand grenades, killing six soldiers and wounding seven before he was killed. These are the dry facts.

[Zohar] Are we talking of a suicide mission here?

[Shomron] This is indeed the character of this mission. I think that from the outset, he had no chance of returning alive from a mission of this sort.

[Zohar] These infiltrations of the northern border—is it at all possible to prevent such actions?

[Shomron] The terrorists have always tried to cross the border by land, sea, and air. This attempt to cross the border by means of small aircraft that are difficult to detect at night is not new. There have been such attempts in the past, but they usually failed. There were only a few successful cases, but the damage was minor. As for the present case, according to our assessment more than one glider was involved. More than one glider tried to infiltrate our area and launch an attack, but this seems to be the only glider that succeeded, with a single person aboard. Although the field has not been left wide open for aerial penetrations by means of light aircraft—these sort of kites which are really quite difficult to detect—we will still have to secure our system against such infiltrations. One must remember that our land, sea, and airspace will never be heremetically sealed without the investment of enormous efforts.

[Zohar] Do we know where the terrorist or possibly terrorists, as you said, set out from and which organization he or they belong to? Do we know which specific organization—Shi'ite, Palestinian, or other—stands behind this attack?

[Shomron] I cannot at the moment say which organization these terrorists belong to, and I therefore prefer not to say anything. I would still like to emphasize that a single terrorist was involved in the attack. Also, as in many other clashes, chance is a very dominant factor with regard to this hard and very painful blow dealt us. Had but one of our soldiers fired an earlier and more accurate string of bullets, such an incident would have resulted in fewer casualties. Such things can, of course, be learned, and we will draw lessons from this clash as we do from any other. Every incident, including this one, is followed by debriefings, lessons, and improvements.

[Zohar] With regard to this aspect, you visited the site of the incident together with the defense minister last night and must have talked with the soldiers already. How do you assess their conduct in the course of the attack?

[Shomron] I do not want to make assessments at this time. We will learn the precise details following debriefings. To the best of my knowledge at the moment, it is clear that at least one of the soldiers acted very well. I would not like to elaborate now. One should remember that the residents of the north experienced a very difficult night. They are still confined because searches are still under way in the area to guarantee that no terrorist has remained on Israeli territory. This obviously makes life difficult. I know that the residents understand the situation. They are of course cooperating with the IDF. I see these northern settlements as a strong component in this region. Such incidents do not boomerang at us through pressure from the northern population; they take them well. In the future, too, we will continue to seal the border as best we can and guarantee the residents' safety.

[Zohar] Thank you very much, Mr Chief of Staff.

Further Shomron Remarks

TA261607 Tel Aviv Education Television in Hebrew
1500 GMT 26 Nov 87

[Interview with Chief of Staff Lieutenant General Dan Shomron by Ilana Dayan "a short time ago in the studio"—videorecorded]

[Excerpt] [Passage omitted] [Dayan] It seems that Israel's airspace is not hermetically sealed. Some would say that in view of the fact that our presence in the security zone did not stop the hang-glide perhaps there is room for reconsidering the value of this zone

[Shomron] On the contrary, this infiltration illustrates the importance of the security zone. If we did not receive a warning until very close to the border, the time we would be left to prepare for the landing of such hang-gliders, if they managed to get through, would be very short. In contrast, the security zone—which ranges between 10 to 15 km and even more than that in some places—is very important when it comes to an aircraft that flies in so slowly that it provides us with advance warning.

[Dayan] Mr Chief of Staff, you attended a Cabinet session at noon today. We hear that the refugee camps in southern Lebanon are already in a state of alert. If a decision were made to retaliate, would the IDF know whom to retaliate against?

[Shomron] The IDF knows, but it will decide when and how to operate according to the circumstances. We identified the person who stands behind, and has assumed responsibility for, this attack as Ahmad Jibril. As we know, Jibril's group is under Syria's patronage and it maintains an air force made up of hang-gliders of various types. We know that they train in the use of this type of aircraft and that they have tried to use it in the past.

Rabin Comments on Attack

TA261320 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew
1230 GMT 26 Nov 87

[Text] Defense Minister Yithzaq Rabin says the IDF will investigate how it was possible for a terrorist to enter a camp, open fire, and inflict such serious casualties on IDF soldiers. The defense minister said that the two terrorists were on a suicide mission. They were spotted while still in the security zone and the settlements were forewarned although there was no accurate information on the precise spot where they landed. Rabin added that Jibril's organization is apparently behind the terrorist attack. Our political correspondent 'Oz Frankel spoke with Defense Minister Yithzaq Rabin:

[Begin recording] [Rabin] Last night's incident must be viewed in the framework of the overall picture of the war against terrorism perpetrated both against us and against the Lebanese security zone. The IDF and South Lebanese Army [SLA] activity and the existence of the security zone have significantly reduced the terrorists' ability to perpetrate attacks within Israel by infiltrating squads by land. Our activity poses a great danger to the terrorist organizations. This also holds true concerning attempts to infiltrate Israeli territory from Lebanon by sea. Jibril's terrorist organization is apparently responsible for this attack. This effort on their part was almost suicidal, because the two gliders, each of which carried one terrorist, were unable to return. This means that those who set out to perpetrate the attack knew they would not return. Our frontline forces in the security zone spotted the gliders crossing into the security zone. The settlements and the units were given forewarning, but we could not pinpoint the exact spot where the gliders would land. One of the terrorists was successful—from his point of view—both in hitting a vehicle driving through the area and in entering a military unit camp. We must not accept this thing; we will examine how it was possible for a terrorist to successfully enter the camp, open fire, and inflict such grave casualties on the soldiers of the unit, who eventually killed him.

[Frankel] Mr Rabin, is there any effective way of completely preventing such sophisticated terrorist attacks?

[Rabin] We cannot hermetically seal our borders even against ground infiltration. Let me recall that last March a Palestinian terrorist squad succeeded [changes thought]...I want to emphasize that it is the Palestinian terrorist organizations that infiltrate and strive to hit targets within Israel. This does not hold true, as a rule, with regard to Amal, and to an even lesser extent to Hizballah. We are preventing almost all ground infiltration attempts, and certainly naval attempts. This is not the first case in which a glider has infiltrated Israeli territory. In 1981 a glider reached all the way to 'Akko, but it crashed there and nothing happened. This time there was forewarning and steps were taken, but they proved insufficient in the case of this unit.

[Frankel] Are you satisfied with the way the soldiers of the attacked unit reacted?

[Rabin] I prefer to answer this after a thorough debriefing is carried out.

[Frankel] Will Israel retaliate in reaction to this terrorist act?

[Rabin] Do you expect me to tell you? [end recording]

Shamir Promises Galilee Security

TA260833 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew
0730 GMT 26 Nov 87

[Text] Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir this morning called the Qiryat Shemona mayor to bolster him and the residents of his town and the Galilee Panhandle. The prime minister promised that the Israeli Government will exert every effort to prevent terrorists from harming the security of the Galilee residents. According to Shamir, this is an isolated incident which had grave results, but the terrorists will not be able to undermine the security of the Galilee and its residents.

Shamir: Syria Behind Attack

TA261643 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew
1500 GMT 26 Nov 87

[Text] Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir visited the area in which the terrorist attack took place and Qiryat Shemona today. He spoke with the mayors of the northern settlements, and pointed an accusing finger toward Syria. Our correspondent in the north Menahem Horowitz met the prime minister:

[Begin recording] [Shamir] It is obvious that the organizations which announced that they perpetrated these murder attempts cannot carry this out without the auspices and help of the Syrians.

[Horowitz] Mr Prime Minister, will any lessons be drawn as a result of what happened here?

[Shamir] Any incident of this kind causes the IDF to draw lessons.

[Horowitz] Do we know that certain countries are training the terrorists on how to reach Israel with gliders?

[Shamir] We know of various ways through which terrorists are trying to infiltrate in order to murder and cause harm. We are finding solutions to all these methods and all these attempts.

[Horowitz] Mr Prime Minister, one last question: Do you think the security zone should be broadened in order to decrease the terrorists' attempts at infiltrating here?

[Shamir] This problem has not come up and I do not think that this is necessary at this point.[end recording]

Rabin on Importance of Iran, Iraq Contacts

TA251500 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1430 GMT 25 Nov 87

[Text] Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin has said that both Iran and Iraq are Israel's enemies. An Iranian victory in the war, however, is the worst possibility as far as we are concerned. Alluding to Iran, the defense minister noted that channels of communication should also be maintained with enemy countries.

[Begin Rabin recording] I belong with those who believed, and continue to believe, that one should seek channels of communication with the enemy, including countries which, at present, are ostensibly our enemies. How does one change a state of war into one of peace? The best way is to create channels of communication, even if only by way of casting one's bread upon the waters in the hope of finding it after many days. That is why I believed in cooperating with the Americans in a bid to find channels to elements within the Iranian Government—not out of hope that something would change as long as Khomeyni remains in power, but in order to bring about the release of U.S. hostages. That is why I saw nothing wrong in using arms supplies to attain this objective. [end recording]

The defense minister was speaking to members of the Jerusalem Bar Association and his remarks were reported by our correspondent Zohar Melamed.

Further Rabin Remarks

TA261455 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 26 Nov 87 p A6

[Report by Barukh Me'iri]

[Text] "A pause on the part of Israel is not a policy; a government which is not active in furthering the cause of peace is not fulfilling its main duty." This was stated by Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin in the Jerusalem Bar Association yesterday.

Rabin believes that the Arab world is currently offering us time to rehabilitate our economy. The defense establishment is therefore required to carry out a reorganization in research and production. Rabin believes that the current situation is propitious for furthering the political process, "regarding which I do not know how long it will last."

The defense minister devoted most of his remarks to the Iran-Iraq war and its impact on Israel. Rabin believes that the convening of the Arab summit in Amman, and the decisions made there, testify that in the Arab world's mind Khomeynism is the worst danger. All other issues are of a lesser priority.

"What should Israel's position regarding the Iran-Iraq war be?", asked Rabin. He went on to explain: "The war destroyed the rejectionist front opposing Israeli-Egyptian peace. This was proved in Amman, in the decision permitting the Arab states to resume relations with Egypt."

"However," added the defense minister, "no situation harbors within it only advantages. This is a confrontation between two countries hostile to Israel. This war must not end in victory for one of the sides, certainly not Iran, which has the better chance of winning. Therefore what is required of us is noninvolvement and sensitivity."

Iraqi Envoy Denies Reports on Rapprochement

TA260840 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 26 Nov 87 p 1

[Report by David Horowitz]

[Text] London—The Iraqi ambassador here yesterday slammed reports of a growing rapprochement between Israel and Iraq as "Mossad disinformation," adding that there was no prospect of any warming of relations "as long as Israel continues to arm Iran to the teeth."

Ambassador Muhammad Sadiq al-Mashat told *The Jerusalem Post* that he paid scant heed to Foreign Minister Peres's recent statements condemning the Khomeyni regime and praising Iraq for confronting fundamentalism.

"I hear the words, but where is the action?" he asked, charging that Israel has been sending arms to Iran from the start of the conflict, and that the entire Iraq-Iran war was sparked by Israel's desire to "cripple and divide Iraq" and to "dominate and expand their reign in the whole area."

Al-Mashat dismissed out of hand suggestions that Israeli arms are being sold to Iraq or might be in the future. "Unlike Khomeyni, we buy our arms openly," he said, naming the Soviet Union and France as major suppliers. "We have purchased not a single bullet on the black market."

Al-Mashat, who spoke to *The Post* after addressing a luncheon of the British Diplomatic and Commonwealth Writers Association, asserted that "Israel does not want peace." He agreed that some sections of the Israeli public support a withdrawal from the West Bank and Gaza, but believed that they were "only a small slice of the pie." The ambassador claimed that the Khomeyni regime had been installed in Tehran as part of a Western effort "to use religion to fight communism. That was the plan, but Israeli intelligence turned the Iranian tide against Iraq, to stop, divide and finish Iraq." Israel, he added, was the only beneficiary of the continued fighting.

Al-Mashat claimed that the "Mossad disinformation" concerning Israeli-Iraqi ties was actually designed for the Ayatollah's benefit. "The war is very unpopular within Iran," he explained, apparently suggesting that the notion of Israeli-Iraqi alliance would spur Iranian enthusiasm for continued conflict.

U.S.-USSR Disarmament Accord Welcomed

TA261020 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew
26 Nov 86 p A4

[Report by Refa'el Mann]

[Text] Israel yesterday welcomed the disarmament agreement reached in Geneva between U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz and his Soviet counterpart, Eduard Shevardnadze, on short- and medium-range missiles. "Any agreement and understanding between the two superpowers also has positive implications for regional problems, including those of the Middle East," said Ehud Gol, the spokesman of the Foreign Ministry in Jerusalem.

Shultz 'Indifference' Resented by Peres Office

TA261709 Tel Aviv 'AL HAMISHMAR in Hebrew 26 Nov 87 p 3

[Report by political correspondent Dalya Shehori and news agencies]

[Excerpt] The assessment prevailing in Foreign Minister Shim'on Peres' office is that the Amman summit strengthened King Husayn's standing and created a promising chance for the advancement of the peace process. Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir's firm position against an international conference in his talks in Washington blocked all chances for progress.

Peres met yesterday with U.S. Ambassador Thomas Pickering who gave him a report on Shamir's talks in Washington. A source in the Foreign Ministry said last night that "Shamir's astounding achievement lies in the fact that he sabotaged the chances for advancing the peace process which were created in the wake of the Amman summit. Shamir has extinguished the peace process and brought about a status quo which will ultimately lead to war."

Resentment could be discerned in the foreign minister's office over the fact that U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz did not try to persuade Shamir that his position is wrong. Officials in Peres' office say that Shultz reacted with indifference to Shamir's rejection of the international conference, apparently because the Reagan administration is not thrilled about giving the Soviet Union a substantial foothold in the peace process.

It was stressed that in the news conference he held at the end of the summit in Amman, Husayn gave accurate quotes of the "London agreement" he had formulated with Shim'on Peres. This document stipulates the principles for the international conference, and direct negotiations between the sides which would ensue with the opening of the conference. The quotes given by Husayn show that he is prepared to enter negotiations on the basis of this document. [passage omitted]

USSR Said Ready To Examine Trade Ties

TA261055 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew
26 Nov 87 pp A1, 2

[Report by Shraga Meckel and Eli Danon]

[Text] "The Soviet Union is prepared to exchange economic survey delegations with Israel to examine possibilities for bilateral trade relations. Water and energy are possible spheres for cooperation between the two countries," Soviet journalist Victor Lewis told Economics and Planning Minister Gad Ya'aqobi during a visit to Israel. The two met a few days ago.

Lewis asked whether Israel is prepared to develop active commercial relations with the USSR and other Eastern bloc countries. Minister Ya'aqobi replied that he is convinced that Israel will be willing if the Soviet Union displays a similar inclination.

Lewis said that he believes it would be useful for Israel to gradually develop de facto relations with the USSR, without insisting that full diplomatic relations be established immediately from the outset. On the Soviet Jewry issue, the journalist said that Israel would have been more convincing if most of the Jews had emigrated to Israel.

Victor Lewis also met with Histadrut Secretary Yisra'el Qeysar, examining with him the possibility of the Histadrut's holding company, and especially the Koor concern, participating in the establishment of high-tech industrial projects in the Soviet Union.

"I met with Lewis this week at his request. He told me he was trying to find Israeli economic bodies who can invest their know-how in the Soviet Union, with Moscow putting up the necessary funds. The Soviets want to use the Jewish brain and pay for it, of course. I informed Lewis that the holding company will examine his request," Qeysar said.

It was reported that the Histadrut and its holding company are not taking the possibility that the sale of know-how and the establishment of projects in the USSR will soon materialize very seriously.

'Sources' Reveal Sharon Visiting Hungary

TA261243 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew
26 Nov 87 p A1

[Report by Refa'el Mann]

[Text] Industry and Trade Minister Ari'el Sharon left on a visit to Hungary several days ago, according to sources in Jerusalem. No advance publicity was given to the visit, at the request of the Hungarian Government.

Sharon left Israel without any announcement being made, and yesterday his office reported that he is "in Paris." Nothing was said, however, regarding the purpose of the trip.

Sharon recently held contacts with Hungarian elements in order to coordinate his visit there.

Peres Returns From UK, Comments on Talks

TA251216 Tel Aviv HADASHOT in Hebrew
25 Nov 87 p 1

[Report by ITIM and from London by Victor Levi]

[Excerpt] [Passage omitted] Foreign Minister Shim'on Peres returned to Israel yesterday a few hours after the prime minister. Contrary to the position expressed by Shamir on the international conference, Peres reported British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher's support for this idea. According to Peres, he also received a promise from Thatcher that she will do everything in her power to preserve the spirit of the "London agreement" he reached with Husayn last April.

The foreign minister claimed that the Soviets and Chinese are the main hurdles on the road to convening an international conference. Peres did not say much about the prime minister's opposing view, defining the argument in Israel over this issue as one of many disputes which are finally resolved.

Peres found Downing Street in agreement with his views on the results of the Amman Arab summit as well. According to Peres, the PLO received mere verbal support and not substantive support for the idea of an independent Palestinian state. As for Syria, the foreign minister said that it is more isolated in the Arab world today than it has ever been before.

No Compromise on Tabah; Arbitration To Continue

TA251118 Tel Aviv HADASHOT in Hebrew
25 Nov 87 p 3

[Report by Ilan Kfir]

[Text] The international arbitration on the Tabah issue will continue until the arbitrators reach a decision. This was concluded in Geneva this week in talks between Foreign Ministry Director General Avraham Tamir, Egyptian representatives, and the arbitration teams. No compromise formula had been found in behind-the-scenes contacts to bridge the differences between the Israeli and Egyptian positions on the future of the disputed area in Tabah, especially the Aviya Sonesta Hotel. The assessment of the Egyptian side is that the arbiters will decide to return the Tabah area, including the hotel, to Egypt.

AL-NAHAR Views Jordanian-Palestinian Ties

TA251712 Jerusalem AL-NAHAR in Arabic
25 Nov 87 pp 1, 11

[Editorial: "Palestinian-Jordanian Coordination Is the Means Not the Objective"]

[Text] The remarks by Foreign Minister Tahir al-Masri, covering the whole range of Jordanian-Palestinian relations, shed light on the dimensions of these special relations. Al-Masri removed much of the sand that some parties had tried to throw into the eyes of the public. These parties were attempting to fish in muddy waters and score points at the expense of the Arabs' foremost problem.

Al-Masri affirmed what can be considered common ground on which the Palestinian and Jordanian sides can stand. He did this by focusing on a number of principles included in the Amman Agreement signed between the Jordanian Government and the PLO. These principles can form a starting point for a comprehensive Arab momentum. This momentum was pioneered by a Palestinian-Jordanian effort aimed toward a just solution of the Palestinian problem by means of an international conference. The idea of such a conference is considered by the entire world (with the exception of the Israeli-U.S. axis) as a suitable means for launching negotiations for liberation from Israeli occupation.

Jordan has stressed from the outset that it does not want to outflank the PLO's representation of the Palestinians and that it is not trying to be a PLO substitute. Consequently, Jordan has cut short the bickering that some people, who prefer to argue over hypothetical issues that are divorced from reality, had evoked over this issue. It is certain that Jordan's eagerness to put an end to such utterances stems from a desire to clarify positions and remove question marks. These question marks have been produced by various self-serving factions who have been concerned with neither the Palestinian-Jordanian interest, nor the supreme pan-Arab interest.

Regarding the reconciliation summit held in Amman, its role in melting the iceberg that enveloped brothers in the same family was decisive. The summit actually paved the way for the resumption of dialogue, and for linking what had been disrupted in the coordination process, which had taken considerable strides forward. The summit also affirmed the necessity of mobilizing all mental, political, material, and literary potentials, not for marginal battles that undermine the Arab parties, but to confront the real inconsistency that everyone should confront, Israeli occupation.

Hence, Palestinian-Jordanian coordination itself was never the aim or the objective, rather it was a means for achieving the hope of the Palestinians to be liberated and emancipated from the yoke of occupation. Therefore, on this difficult road, it is incumbent on the two sides to adopt the means presently available in the international arena. These means are the convocation of the international conference and the mobilization of Arab and international elements of political influence to pressure Israel and its American ally to accept this tool and submit to international, Arab, and Palestinian consensus.

This is the real coordination role aspired to by everyone who yearns to regain the land and free its inhabitants from occupation.

Military Inquiry Into Security Prison Ordered

TA251021 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 25 Nov 87 p 1

[Report by Knesset correspondent Dvora Getzler]

[Text] Defence Minister Rabin has ordered a military inquiry into all aspects of the Farah security prison on the West Bank, following the government's adoption of the Landau report on the General Security Service (Shin Bet), he told the Knesset yesterday.

Answering parliamentary questions, Rabin said that the probe would include investigative methods used in the camp and would ensure that the recommendations on proper interrogation methods made by the Landau Commission, and contained in a secret annex, were implemented.

The report was critical of many aspects of Shin Bet interrogations, while recognizing the difficulties posed in investigating terror offences.

But 'Oded Zucker (Citizens Rights Movement), who had raised the issue of Farah, was not happy with the answer. He wanted to know whether the judge advocate's office would be handling the probe, or whether it would be in the hands of a "more objective body". The judge advocate's office, he pointed out, was associated with the very security system that had been attacked in the Landau report.

Rabin gave no answer to that query.

But he did firmly deny the suggestion that Israel was cooperating with South Africa in developing the Lavi fighter plane.

"There is no truth in that item of news," he said to Yosi Sarid (CRM). While Israel could not stop personnel who had worked on the Lavi from going to South Africa and taking up employment there, and while some former Israel Aircraft Industries staff had indeed done so, this was not at the government's behest, nor with its approval, he said.

On a totally different issue, Rabin told David Magen (Likud) that since 1984—i.e. since the present government took office and he became defence minister—the number of Arabs entering the territories each year had been half the annual average entering in the years 1981-83—i.e. the period of the second Likud administration.

Magen had inquired whether the Alignment was tring to solve "the demographic problem" by permitting vast immigration and settlement of Arabs in the territories.

"You can make what you like of my answer," said Rabin.

SLA Soldier, 'Terrorist' Killed 26 Nov

TA261925 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1730 GMT 26 Nov 87

[Text] A Christian soldier from the forces of Antoine Lahd has been killed in a shooting incident between South Lebanese Army [SLA] soldiers and terrorists near the town of Jazzin in Lebanon. One terrorist was also killed in the incident. This is reported by our correspondent in the north, Menahem Horowitz.

Another SLA Soldier Killed

TA270715 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 0600 GMT 27 Nov 87

[Text] Here is a report we have just received: A South Lebanese Army soldier was killed in the security strip yesterday. The incident took place when an SLA patrol encountered members of an organization called the National Resistance. The SLA closed down the area of the incident.

King Husayn Returns From Damascus Talks

JN252022 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 25 Nov 87

[Text] His Majesty King Husayn returned home from Damascus this evening following a short working visit to Syria. During the visit he held talks with his brother President Hafiz al-Asad of the Syrian Arab Republic and senior Syrian officials. Prime Minister Zayd al-Rifa'i returned along with his majesty the king.

His majesty the king was seen off at Damascus Airport by his excellency President Hafiz al-Asad, Vice Presidents 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam and Dr Muhammad Zuhayr Mashariqah, Prime Minister Mahmud al-Zu'bi, the deputy prime ministers, a number of cabinet ministers, and the Jordanian ambassador in Damascus.

His Majesty King Husayn and his excellency President Hafiz al-Asad held an expanded session of talks at the presidential palace at 1715 today. The session was attended by Prime Minister Zayd al-Rifa'i, Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, Prime Minister Mahmud al-Zu'bi, Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar', and the Jordanian ambassador in Damascus.

The talks dealt with the situation in the Arab world in general, the sitaution in the region, issues related to the resolutions adopted at the extraordinary Arab summit which was recently held in Amman, and bilateral fraternal relations. His majesty King Husayn and his excellency President Hafiz al-Asad held a closed meeting at the presidential palace this afternoon.

Prime Minister Zayd al-Rifa'i met with Syrian Prime Minister Mahmud al-Zu'bi at the Prime Ministry this afternoon. The talks dealt with the steps that have been taken to develop bilateral relations and bolster the march of cooperation, particularly in terms of reinforcing and activating the functions of joint companies. The also discussed issues related to developing bilateral cooperation between the two fraternal states. Afterward, Al-Rifa'i and Al-Zu'bi exchanged the ratification documents of the agreement on the exploitation of the the Al-Yarmuk River waters which was signed by the two countries in Amman on 3 September 1987. The exchange ceremonies were attended by Mahmud Qaddur, [Syrian] deputy prime minister for services affairs; Dr Salim Yasin, deputy prime minister for economic affairs; Muhammad Ghabbash, agriculture and agrarian reform minister; Engineer 'Abd al-Rahman Madani, irrigation minister; Dr Marwan Farra, construction minister; and the Jordanian ambassador in Damasscus.

Syria-Iraq Ties Discussed

JN261016 Abu Dhabi Domestic Service in Arabic 0930 GMT 26 Nov 87

[Text] In its issue today, the newspaper *Al-Ittihad* says the talks of His Majesty King Husayn of Jordan with Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad in Damascus yesterday focused on ways to speed up the Syrian-Iraqi reconciliation. The paper said the Jordanian monarch believes that entrenching this reconciliation as soon as possible will enable him to move on the regional and Arab levels to implement the recent Amman summit resolutions.

The paper cited informed diplomatic sources as saying that King Husayn also believes that the cessation of media campaigns between Baghdad and Damascus and the visit to Baghdad by a semiofficial Syrian trade delegation are not sufficient. This prompted King Husayn to visit Damascus yesterday. The sources revealed that the Jordanian monarch will pay a 2-day visit to Baghdad today. The sources added that His Majesty King Husayn is asking the Syrian and Iraqi leaders to immediately resume diplomatic relations. Syrian officials, however, believe that the resumption of relations should follow the opening of borders and the resumption of trade and economic relations and subsequently the reopening of the Iraqi oil pipeline to Baniyas.

Foreign Minister Outlines Nationalist Policy

JN260803 Amman JORDAN TIMES in English 26 Nov 87 p 3

["Special to the *Jordan Times*" by Sana' 'Atiyah]

[Text] Amman—What has Jordan's nationalist role been in securing Arab reconciliation and accord during the last two decades? Jordan has, during this time, consistently exerted efforts to unify the Arab World, according to Foreign Minister Tahir al-Masri.

"Since 1967, Jordan has always tried to solve Arab problems and to halt the dangers and threats against the Arab Nation, as a whole, and against the Arab Order," Mr. al-Masri said.

"I was an ambassador for a long time," he continued, and I remember that most of the Jordanian ambassadors' missions to different countries were for an Arab purpose rather than a personal one."

Addressing a group attending a dinner held by the Professional and Working Women's Club on Tuesday evening, Mr. al-Masri outlined Jordan's nationalistic efforts to bring the Arab Nation closer together.

The foreign minister stressed that "His Majesty King Husayn continuous efforts to unify the Arab fold culminated during the extraordinary Arab summit recently held here in Amman. It (the summit) achieved Arab reconciliation and unanimous agreements on the different Arab issues."

On Jordan's position vis-a-vis the Arab-Israeli conflict, Mr. al-Masri said, "while Jordan always looked at Resolution 242 as the withdrawal of Israel from the occupied territories and the regaining of Arab control, others saw it as recognition of Israel."

He continued to say that since the 1974 Arab summit in Rabat, Jordan has considered the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) as the sole representative of the Palestinian people. "And we still insist on this point of view, noting that the PLO must participate in the proposed international peace conference," he added.

Mr. al-Masri noted that Jordan held to its nationalist position at the Baghdad summit in 1978, when it joined the Arabs in breaking relations with Egypt, following Egypt's Camp David accords with Israel. "Jordan was accused of wanting to join Egypt in its bilateral peace with Israel, which was obviously untrue. King Husayn had told the press on many occasions that if Jordan wanted to get into Camp David in the way it was offered, Jordan would have benefitted a great deal. But because of Jordan's nationalist principles, it still rejects this path," the minister explained.

He said that since the beginning of the Iran-Iraq war, Jordan's stand has remained nationalist, firmly behind Iraq against the threat of the Iranian regime, which is a dangerous threat to the entire Arab Order.

Mr. al-Masri added that for two years, King Husayn had warned the Gulf countries that if no united Arab position was taken towards confronting this danger, then Iran would increase the scale of the war, and the Gulf states would be forced to ask for foreign protection. "And if the foreign fleets remain in the Gulf waters, then there is even more danger to the Arab Order," he said, noting that if the other Arab countries had taken the same position as Jordan, the Gulf war would not have reached this stage.

The foreign minister went on to say that after seven months of the King's intensive efforts, President Saddam Husayn of Iraq and Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad met in Al-Jafr for twenty hours; but the two leaders still did not agree. Then, during the recent summit in Amman, Mr. al-Masri added, King Husayn again exerted efforts towards reconciling the two leaders and managed to have them meet together, in the presence of five other Arab leaders—an event which led to their actual reconciliation.

Mr. al-Masri explained that these exhaustive efforts by King Husayn were evidence of his own and his country's devotion to their nationalist stand.

The foreign minister also mentioned that another example of Jordan's nationalist position in the Arab World was the fact that Jordan resumed diplomatic ties with Libya before the convening of the extraordinary Arab summit here, "despite Libya's accusations against Jordan in its press and other problems."

On the Arab League, Mr. al-Masri said that the league has weakened, become less active and less important because of Arab fragmentation. He added that the Arab League must be strengthened in order to pave the way for solving Arab problems. Mr. al-Masri noted that King Husayn had stressed this point strongly during the recent summit.

The minister also said that Euro-Arab dialogue is beneficial to the Arab interests, as well as Afro-Arab dialogue. "We don't have a single embassy in Africa, and we must work together to strengthen our position within the African continent," he said, adding that on this point, too, King Husayn held an Arab nationalist stand.

Answering a question on Egypt after he finished the lecture, Mr. al-Masri said Jordan restored ties with Egypt in 1984 because "the Israeli regime's aim has always been to isolate Egypt from the rest of the Arab World. I'm not saying that breaking relations with Egypt in 1978 was wrong at that time, but now the circumstances are different. And now, only two weeks after the summit, nine of the Arab countries have restored their ties with Egypt."

On the proposed international peace conference, Mr. al-Masri said Israeli and U.S. opposition to the idea was a major obstacle in efforts to realise that goal. "For the past three years, Jordan has had the rest of the world supporting the principle of the conference, and still those two countries refuse it, and I don't think the U.S. will change its position; but it helps when they are pressured by the rest of the world," he explained. "The only way to solve the Arab-Israeli conflict is through diplomatic means and holding an international peace conference," Mr. al-Masri concluded.

Attack on Camp Seen as Rejection of Israel Stand

JN270826 Amman AL-DUSTUR in Arabic 27 Nov 87 p 1

[Editorial: "Either Land...or Peace"]

[Text] Yesterday's attack on an Israeli camp by the Arab resistance was a natural reaction to Israel's arbitrary practices against the kinfolk in the occupied Arab territory. It was also a natural result of Israel's disavowal of the peace efforts, which were exerted on more than one level.

The Israeli Government has throughout the past years been procrastinating and fabricating excuses and pretexts to escape from the peace option that the Arabs have proposed on various occasions and that the international community has supported. A few days ago Yitzhaq Shamir declared his total rejection of the idea of holding an international conference, an idea that enjoys increasing Arab and international support because it is the best way to ensure Israel's withdrawal from the Arab territories and restore legitimate Arab rights.

Therefore, yesterday's Arab resistance operation expressed the Arab rejection of the procrastination and prevarication characterizing the Israeli reactions to the

peace options. It also represents a relentless Arab determination to wrest rights and regain sanctities regardless of sacrifices and difficulties.

The heroic results of that operation will hopefully make the Israeli Government, which has been immersed in procrastination and prevarication throughout the past years, see the inevitable fact that in no case will it be able to retain land and peace at the same time.

It has become evident that the only option Israel has not tested due to its leaders' intransigence and obstinacy is that of peace by means of an international conference as reasserted by the Arab leaders during the Arab summit, the summit of reconciliation and accord, which was held on the soil of this steadfast country.

The Arab rejection of Israel's practices and arbitrary measures—a rejection that is taking various forms such as popular uprisings and demonstrations, or yesterday's daring attack—expresses a most noble Arab tenet represented in the rejection of injustice and rebellion against oppression. It is also in line with the right of all nations to resist occupation and repressive practices, as guaranteed by the UN Charter and international law. This rejection also expresses a profound and sure desire to attain a comprehensive and honorable peace through recognized international bodies.

French Hostages Reportedly To Be Released

NC262145 Paris AFP in English 2138 GMT 26 Nov 87

[Text] Beirut, Nov 26 (AFP)—The Revolutionary Justice Organisation, holding three Westerners hostage, late Thursday said two French captives would be freed "in the next 24 hours".

The announcement was made in a communique, handwritten in Arabic, received by a Western news agency in Beirut.

The communique was authenticated by a polaroid picture of Jean-Louis Normandin, a lighting engineer for the French state-owned television network Antenne-2, who has been held for the last 20 months.

In addition to Mr. Normandin, the Revolutionary Justice Organisation claims to be holding two Americans, Joseph Ciccipio and Edward Tracy, kidnapped in September 1986.

Further on Possible Release

NC270610 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0524 GMT 27 Nov 87

[Text] The Revolutionary Justice Organization has promised to release two French hostages within 24 hours. French Ambassador to Lebanon Paul Blanc left for the French Embassy in West Beirut at dawn today. The kidnappers have named the embassy building as the place for meeting with a number of French envoys in order to secure the release of the two hostages.

It should be recalled that the pro-Iranian Revolutionary Justice Organization asserted in a handwritten statement sent to the *Al-Nahar* newspaper and a Western news agency last night that it will release two French hostages within 24 hours. The organization, which attached to its statement a Polaroid picture of Jean-Louis Normandin, a member of the French television network Antenne-2 who has been held for the last 20 months, said that it has decided to release the two hostages in response to mediation efforts by certain friends and after it had received assurances from the French Government that it would honor its pledges in the Middle East.

In its statement, the organization requested that Alexandre Stephani, an envoy of the French Government who is now in Beirut, and French Ambassador in Damascus Alain Grenier proceed to the French Embassy in West Beirut in the next few hours so that the organization could communicate to them the measures that will be taken to release the two hostages. The statement affirmed that this is an important and necessary step.

Paul Blanc, the French ambassador in Lebanon, arrived at the French Embassy on Clemenceau Street in West Beirut at 0230. A diplomatic source has stated that the envoy of the French Government is also there.

Press circles are anxiously watching for the results of this operation.

French Envoy Leaves Embassy

NC270730 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0719 GMT 27 Nov 87

[Excerpts] French Ambassador to Lebanon Paul Blanc and French Defense Ministry official Alexandre Stephani have left the French Embassy in West Beirut under tight security. The ambassador and Stephani had spent 3 hours there waiting for a call from the Revolutionary Justice Organization. [passage omitted]

It is not yet known whether the call ever took place. However, *Reuter* has cited Islamic security sources as saying that the organization might release Normandin.

Hostage Release 'Imminent'

NC271109 Paris AFP in English 1032 GMT 27 Nov 87

[Excerpts] Beirut, Nov 27 (AFP)—The liberation of two French hostages in Beirut was believed imminent, a French diplomat told journalists watching the French Embassy in Muslim-dominated West Beirut early on Friday.

In addition, journalists several times heard voices transmitted on radio receivers held by three French police officers outside embassy buildings, say "it is imminent".

Members of the Syrian military were controlling roads to the chancellery part of the embassy where the French Ambassador Paul Blanc was located with a senior French Defence Ministry official Alexandre Stephani.

The ambassador was reported to be in permanent contact with Paris on preparation of details for the return of the two hostages to France, an embassy official said. [passage omitted]

In Paris Denis Baudouin, spokesman of French Prime Minister Jacques Chirac, told the RTL radio station that if the hostages were released they would leave Lebanon through Syria.

"At the present stage we are saying nothing but we share everyone's hopes", Mr. Baudouin said.

Friday morning Mr. Chirac chaired a meeting of the Internal Security Council of senior ministers to deal with the hostages question.

Interior Minister Charles Pasqua and Security Minister Robert Pandraud, who were up most of the night with other senior officials following the RJO [Revolutionary Justice Organization] announcement, were among those present.

Others were Justice Minister Albin Chalandon, Foreign Minister Jean-Bernard Raimond, Defence Minister Andre Giraud and Economy and Finance Minister Edouard Balladur.

Informed sources in Paris said the release of the two hostages was supposed to have taken place on November 10 or 11, but was put back because "of last minute small difficulties" over the freeing of the second unnamed hostage.

This unnamed hostage is believed to be either the diplomat Marcel Carton, or the diplomat Marcel Fontaine, the sources said.

The release was expected to take place late Friday, sources added.

A committee of four people, headed by Interior Minister Charles Pasqua, has been preparing for their release since last September, the sources also said.

The meeting of the Internal Security Council in Paris lasted 75 minutes after which ministers left without saying a word.

"One must remain prudent," Denis Baudouin, the prime minister's spokesman said.

The French Defence Ministry official at the French Embassy in Beirut, Alexandre Stephani, was said to have left Paris to travel to Beirut by way of Larnaca, in Cyprus, Wednesday, well-informed sources also said.

Hostages To Be Released 27 Nov

NC271602 Paris AFP in English 1555 GMT 27 Nov 87

[Text] Beirut, Nov 27 (AFP)—The Revolutionary Justice Organisation (RJO) announced here Friday it would release two French hostages at 18.30 p.m. (1630 GMT) at a hotel on the southern edge of mostly-Moslem West Beirut.

The RJO made the announcement in an Arabic-language statement to a Western news agency in Beirut and authenticated the message with a picture of French television technician Jean-Louis Normandin, who has been held by the RJO for 20 months.

Information Minister Skaf Tenders Resignation

NC261145 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1137 GMT 26 Nov 87

[Text] We received the following report a short while ago:

Information Minister Joseph Skaf has tendered his resignation and announced the end of his stay in office. His resignation was contained in a three-page letter that he delivered to acting Prime Minister Dr Salim al-Huss at noon today.

Al-Huss Comments

NC261526 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1415 GMT 26 Nov 87

[Text] Commenting on Minister Joseph Skaf's resignation, acting Prime Minister Salim al-Huss has said: This resignation expresses the status of the government. We have stressed more than once the fact that the government had resigned and that there exists only a caretaker government until a new one is formed. Al-Huss affirmed that he appreciates the reasons and that he understands the national position which prompted the resignation. The reasons for this resignation point to Lebanon's problem. He maintained that the general situation cannot change unless the regime pursues a course that would achieve national salvation and put the country back on the right course.

'Commando Unit' Attacks Israeli Settlement

NC252148 Paris AFP in English 2141 GMT 25 Nov 87

[Text] Jerusalem, Nov 25 (AFP)—Fighting was raging round a northern Israeli settlement late on Wednesday, with an unknown number of people hurt on each side in an attack by a commando unit which entered northern Israel from Lebanon and attacked an Israeli military post, Israeli military sources said.

They said the fighting was taking place near the town of Qiryat Shemona.

The sources were unable to give any details on the reported attackers.

They said there were many injured on both sides, but no casualty figures were yet available.

Man in Glider Syrian

NC270659 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 0555 GMT 27 Nov 87

[Excerpts] According to Israeli and Palestinian reports, the man who carried out the operation against the Israeli camp near Qiryat Shemona was Syrian. The Syrian occupation forces in the Al-Biqa' have taken extraordinary precautionary measures against any Israeli reprisal. The Palestinians have also deployed around their positions and declared a state of alert in their camps in southern Lebanon.

Citing a PFLP-GC official source, AFP has reported that the person who carried out the operation was a Syrian national from Aleppo named Abu Rami. A spokesman for the front pointed out that the group which attacked the Israeli camp consisted of a Syrian, a Tunisian, and two Palestinians. [passage omitted]

PLO Chairman Yasir 'Arafat contacted the Palestinian command in Sidon last night. During the call, he expressed his conviction that Israel will carry out a naval and air operation against the Palestinian camps.

Tension Prevails in Camps

NC262117 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 2045 GMT 26 Nov 87

[Text] Flares were dropped over Sidon at about 2030 today. Israeli gunboats were also reported off the Sidon coast.

It has been reported from the south that a state of extreme tension and caution prevails in the Palestinian camps, particularly in 'Ayn al-hulwah where shops and schools were closed and the streets were deserted except for military vehicles equipped with antiaircraft guns.

The PLO this afternoon warned of the consequences of any attempted Israeli military operation against the south and the Palestinian camps in Lebanon.

3d 'Infiltrator' Reportedly Arrested

NC261721 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1645 GMT 26 Nov 87

[Text] According to press reports from the south, the Israeli forces today arrested a third Palestinian infiltrator in a village near Qiryat Shemona.

Israeli Armored Force Enters South 26 Nov

NC261727 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 26 Nov 87

[Text] People coming from Marj 'Uyun have reported that the occupation forces brought into the Marj 'Uyun area are part of an armored force, comprising 156 vehicles and about 100 soldiers [figures as heard], at dawn today. The force set up checkpoints on roads in the areas of Tall al-Nuhas, Kafr Killa, Dayr Mimas, and Hula. Passing vehicles and passengers were carefully searched.

The force also carried out a wide-scale search operation in the areas of Al-Dardarah plain, Kafr Killa, Al-'Uday-sah, Hula, and Markaba.

South Areas Shelled; Helicopters Overfly Tyre

NC261451 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1400 GMT 26 Nov 87

[Text] The 'Ayn Busiwar road is coming under 155-mm artillery fire from Buslayya Hill. Three civilian vehicles have been damaged.

At 1320 today, helicopters flew at low altitude over the Tyre coast.

Jarju' came under 120-mm artillery fire from Al-Raylan at 1330. One house was destroyed by the fire.

Israeli Jets Stage Mock Raids Over Sidon, Camps

NC270928 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0915 GMT 27 Nov 87

[Text] Israeli warplanes conducted mock raids over Sidon and the camps as part of reconnaissance sorties.

Hizballah-Amal Clashes Reported in West Beirut

NC251746 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1730 GMT 25 Nov 87

[Text] We have just received word that clashes broke out between Amal and Hizballah groups in Al-Shara' al-Abyad, Al-Ruways, and Burj al-Barajinah [in West Beirut]. Rockets and machineguns are being used in the fighting which began at 1620 today.

Amal, Palestinians Resume Fire Near Shatila Camp

NC252110 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 2015 GMT 25 Nov 87

[Text] Amal and Palestinian gunmen have been trading mortar and rocket fire along the Shatila camp combat lines as of 2200 tonight. A shell landed in the area of Qasqas at 1830, wounding two persons. They were taken to Al-Maqasid hospital for treatment. The Fatah Movement has announced that one of its fighters was killed in the Shatila camp by Amal gunfire.

Meanwhile, the committee in charge of dealing with the camps issue met at 1800 today under the chairmanship of 'Asim Qansuh, secretary of the Ba'th Party Organization in Lebanon. The committee members have denounced all the acts that lead to tension in the camps. They expressed determination to continue their efforts until a cease-fire agreement in Shatila is reached.

In another development, clashes involving the use of rockets and machineguns took place between Amal and Hizballah members at the Al-Ruways area this evening. The clashes, which came to a halt at 1900 following contacts between Hizballah and [Amal security official] 'Aql Hamiyah, left two persons wounded. The fighting is part of the local area disputes.

'Violent' Clashes Reported

NC260620 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 0608 GMT 26 Nov 87

[Text] We have just received the following report: Violent clashes are currently raging along the Shatila combat lines. Various types of machineguns, rockets, and artillery weapons are being used in the fighting.

Agreement Reached To End Fighting

NC261410 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 1230 GMT 26 Nov 87

[Text] Tension continued in and around the Shatila camp today as several meetings were held to deal with the current situation. The Palestinian resistance groups

issued a statement this afternoon following these meetings. It said: A preliminary meeting was held at the Ba'th Party Organization headquarters at 1000 today, attended by representatives from the resistance groups and Comrade 'Abd al-Amir 'Abbas. The current situation in Shatila was reviewed. The conferees then moved to the operations headquarters of the Amal Movement in Bi'r Hasan, where a joint meeting was held at 1130 attended by Major Walid Hasanatu of the Syrian observer team, 'Abd al-Amir 'Abbas, and Bessam Tulays. Agreement was reached on the following points:

First, to immediately abide by a cease-fire;

Second, to stop the exchange of information campaigns;

Third, to hand over to the brother Syrians anyone in and around the camp who does not abide by the agreement; and

Fourth, that the brother Syrians will supervise the cease-fire.

A follow-up team will be established in the headquarters of the Syrian command in Sabra. Two comrades from the resistance groups will be present at this post.

Amal Central Military Operations Room Disbanded

NC261232 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 26 Nov 87

[Text] In implementation of the decision made by the Amal Movement's Central Council on 8 October 1987, the Amal Organizational Bureau has decided to disband the Central Military Operations Room and to consider anything issued by it as not binding on the movement.

Amal 'Source' Denies Birri Intends To Resign

JN251944 Doha QNA in Arabic 1915 GMT 25 Nov 87

[Text] Beirut, 25 Nov (QNA)—A responsible source in the Lebanese Amal movement today denied reports that Amal chief Nabih Birri intends to resign his post.

In a statement to a QNA correspondent in Beirut, the source added that these reports are groundless and that Birri did not decide to resign the movement's leadership or to freeze his activity at all.

Press reports said that Birri decided to resign and to be succeeded by 'Akif Haydar, member of the Amal Movement Political Bureau.

9 February Claims Attacks on Syrians in Tripoli

NC260818 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 0745 GMT 26 Nov 87

[Text] The Khalil 'Akkawi Group of the 9 February Organization has claimed responsibility for attacks on two positions held by the Syrian occupation forces in Tripoli at 0515 today.

In its statement on the incidents, the organization said that the first attack, in which machineguns, rockets, and handgrenades were employed, was targeted against a Syrian center in the Al-Daman Building. The post and a jeep were destroyed, and a number of Syrian troops were either killed or wounded. The declaration noted that the second assault was carried out against another Syrian position in the Rima Center Building. This attack, which featured the use of machineguns and rockets, left a number of Syrians either dead or wounded and the center completely destroyed.

The statement added that the organization called on the sons of Tripoli to unite and expel Syrian troops from the city. It said that the Syrians have plundered Tripoli's wealth, killed its men, assaulted its women, and arrested hundreds of its sons. The declaration continued by noting that henceforth, the brothers of Khalil 'Akkawi will not allow anyone to encroach on Tripoli and its sons.

It should be recalled that Khalil 'Akkawi was an official in the Islamic Unification Movement and was killed shortly after his release from a Syrian prison.

Attack on Syrian Post Claimed

NC271256 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1145 GMT 27 Nov 87

[Text] The Khalil 'Akkawi unit of the 9 February organization has claimed responsibility for firing a rocket at the Syrian checkpoint on 'Azmi Street in Tripoli yesterday. Two Syrian soldiers were wounded. The Syrians then opened fire indiscriminately in the area.

Bombs Dismantled in Tyre; Syrian Found Dead

NC251818 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1715 GMT 25 Nov 87

[Text] Members of the Amal Movement dismantled three explosive charges today that had been placed in different parts of Tyre.

A Syrian male, 'Abbas Khashshan, was found dead of a gunshot wound inside his Mercedes near the main road in Bizbina in 'Akkar.

Group Claims Killing of Syrian Ba'th Official

NC261311 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1215 GMT 26 Nov 87

[Text] The Liberation Battalion has claimed responsibility for the killing of Syrian national 'Abbas Khashshan, the official in charge of the Syrian Ba'th Party in the 'Akkar area, on Tuesday night. The battalion warned those collaborating with the Syrian occupation forces that they would meet the same fate.

Resistance Attacks Israeli, Lahd Positions
NC261159 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic
1000 GMT 26 Nov 87

[Text] Using rockets and machineguns, a group of the deprived forces attacked Rshaf, an enemy and agent position, at dawn today. A 10-minute clash ensued during which an observation post was destroyed, a jeep damaged, and a 12.7-mm machinegun emplacement destroyed.

Another group fired two rockets at the Humayd-al-Qawzah position and scored direct hits. Flames of fire were seen rising from the position.

The agent's radio admitted the two attacks, but said nothing about the number of casualties.

Lahd Officer Threatens UN Norwegian Contingent
NC260720 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic
0530 GMT 26 Nov 87

[Text] Nabih Abu Rafi', Lahd's commander in Hasbayya, has threatened to pound positions held by the Norwegian contingent in Al-'Arqub. Abu Rafi' made his threat during a meeting with representatives of the Norwegian contingent and Israeli liaison officers at the militia's headquarters in Hasbayya at noon yesterday. He told the Norwegian officers that he will occupy all Norwegian posts on the Hasbayya-Marj 'Uyun Road and will close it to UN forces stationed between Ibil al-Saqi and Shab'a if Norwegian officers continue harassing his men at checkpoints at the Kawkaba and Ibil al-Saqi junction.

The Norwegian contingent has been placed on alert as a precaution, and has informed its command in Al-Naqurah of the threat. The Norwegian commander has also told his Army's command in Oslo of the South Lebanese Army's attitude.

Publishing House Officials Wounded in Ambush
NC260733 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic
0615 GMT 26 Nov 87

[Text] The Al-Farabi Printing and Publishing House has issued a statement saying that its director, Husam Abu Mujahid, and its distribution section chief, 'Ali Bahsun, were wounded in an ambush in the Al-Hursh section of West Beirut last night. The two men were taken to Al-Maqasid Hospital in critical condition.

Al-Asad, King Husayn Resume Talks 25 Nov

JN251633 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1615 GMT 25 Nov 87

[Excerpt] President Hafiz al-Asad and His Majesty King Husayn resumed their talks at 1715 today in a meeting which was joined by the members of the Syrian and Jordanian delegations. Talks dealt with the situation in the region and in the Arab arena, issues related to the extraordinary Arab summit in Amman and its resolutions, and bilateral relations. [passage omitted]

King Husayn Departs

JN251828 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1815 GMT 25 Nov 87

[Text] At 1830 today His Majesty King Husayn left Damascus. President Hafiz al-Asad led those who saw his majesty off. Also present were Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, Prime Minister Mahmud al-Zu'bi, Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar', and a number of ministers.

Damascus TV Reports PFLP-GC Glider Operation

JN262016 Damascus Television Service in Arabic 1830 GMT 26 Nov 87

[Excerpt] A Palestinian fedayeen group belonging to the PFLP-GC carried out a martyrdom operation inside occupied Palestine last night. The operation was considered by Dan Shamron, the enemy army chief of staff, a very hard and painful blow. In a statement, the front said that a formation of the front's gliders carrying a fedayeen group landed near the Zionist occupation army's command camp of the northern region. The members of the fedayeen group managed to storm the camp and surprise the Zionist enemy soldiers. They hurled bombs at them and clashed with them with machineguns. They killed a number of the camp's officers and soldiers and paralyzed the movement of the rest of the camp's personnel after completely controlling the position.

The statement indicated that the battle was very fierce. The spokesman for the occupation army was forced to admit that it was severe and violent despite attempts to black out the operation and imposing a military cordon around the scene of the operation. Meanwhile, the Zionist military censorship resorted to publishing contradictory reports to hide the facts from news agencies. [passage omitted]

'Palestine Broadcast' on Operation

JN271304 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 27 Nov 87

[Unattributed commentary from the "Palestine Broadcast" feature]

[Text] Brothers on the road to revolution and liberation: The fedayeen carried out a daring and unique operation in northern occupied Palestine last night. The fedayeen penetrated the so-called security belt in southern Lebanon and northern occupied Palestine. This time, the penetration took place from the air. A motorized glider landed near a Zionist military base in the vicinity of the Qiryat Shemona settlement. Immediately after landing, a hero fedayeen disembarked from it and began attacking the enemy soldiers with hand grenades and machineguns. He spread terror and fear in the hearts of these soldiers. The Zionist enemy admitted this daring fedayeen operation but, as usual, tried to minimize the losses. The Zionist enemy also imposed a news blackout on the incident. The enemy admitted that only six of its officers and soldiers were killed and that eight others were wounded. The Zionist forces besieged the area and began searching for two fedayeen in addition to the one martyred as a result of the clash between him and the Zionist forces.

This fedayeen operation once again raises many questions, chief among which are the following:

1. The question of how effective is the so-called security belt Israel has established in southern Lebanon under the pretext of protecting Zionist settlements in northern occupied Palestine. This daring operation has demonstrated the fragility of this belt, which has never safeguarded security and peace either for the Lahd agent militias located within its boundaries, or the Zionist forces stationed in northern occupied Palestine, or even the Zionist settlers.

The fedayeen have succeeded in penetrating this so-called security belt many times and infiltrated through it into the Zionist settlements in northern occupied Palestine to carry out several fedayeen operations. The fedayeen also have continued to fire Katyusha rockets through this belt, and these rockets have fallen on more than one occasion on the Zionist settlements in northern occupied Palestine.

However, the most serious and most important thing to the enemy this time is that the so-called security belt has been penetrated from the air. Undoubtedly, this will make the Zionist enemy rulers wonder and will raise once again the question of the so-called secure borders.

2. The daring fedayeen operation has once again affirmed that there are no borders secure against the Arab fedayeen who, through their own means, can reach their targets, irrespective of security and terrorist obstacles and means.

3. This operation demonstrates that the fedayeen have attained an advanced stage in the implementation of their operations against the Zionist enemy. Not content with restricting their operations to land and sea, this time they used the air to reach the skies of occupied Palestine, thus eluding all the radar and early warning and not-so-early warning systems. This is not the first

time that the fedayeen have used gliders and single engine aircraft in their operations to reach the soil of occupied Palestine. They previously used balloons for this purpose.

4. The daring fedayeen operation was targetted against a Zionist military base and the Zionist enemy soldiers. This means that the fedayeen who was martyred while carrying out the operation had stormed enemy troop concentrations and clashed with the Zionist soldiers in a battle lasting more than 30 minutes—as the Zionist enemy has admitted—in which six soldiers died and eight were injured.

5. In spite of the occupation authorities imposing a news blackout on the incident and banning foreign correspondents from visiting the scene of operations, the enemy's admission of this operation and the losses it reported show that the psychological, human, and security impact is far more greater than the losses so far announced from this unique fedayeen operation.

Paper Views Escalation of Resistance Operations

JN270812 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0530 GMT 27 Nov 87

[From the press review]

[Text] Under the headline "The Decisive Revolutionary Reply to the Racist Zionist Practices", *Al-Thawrah* says: The splendid popular steadfastness in the occupied Arab territories, the heroic confrontation of the Zionist occupiers, and the continuous escalation of the national resistance operations are the natural upshot of the course of steadfastness and armed struggle these masses abide by as the only means to liberate their land and regain their rights. This revolutionary course is the main title of this stage. The Zionist enemy believed that, thanks to boundless U.S. support, it could make this stage one during which it would force the Arabs to capitulate, impose hegemony on them, and liquidate their central cause. However, this illusion has vanished as a result of the popular rejection of the schemes of capitulation and the plans of the defeatists. This illusion was also shattered thanks to the steadfastness of the Arab citizens in the occupied territories, whether in southern Lebanon, the Golan Heights, the West Bank, the Gaza Strip, or in the Palestinian land that was usurped in 1948. All this shows that the national resistance operations will escalate and that the revolutionary flame will undoubtedly reach its objectives of inflicting final defeat on the Zionist aggressive and expansionist scheme.

This manifest reality worries the Zionist enemy and makes it apprehensive not only with respect to the future of its occupation of the Arab land but also with respect to the outcome of its usurpation of Arab land and rights.

AL-BA'TH Interviews Vice President

PM271111 Damascus AL-BA'TH in Arabic 16 Nov 87 pp 1, 3

[Interview with Vice President Muhammad Zuhayr Mashariqah by Muhammad Kanaysi; place, date not given]

[Excerpts] [Passage omitted] [Kanaysi] The Corrective Movement has, since it was launched, adopted a principled pan-Arab stand toward the Palestinian cause, as represented by its defense of the cause and confrontation of schemes and plots hatched by enemies, namely Zionists, imperialists, reactionaries, deviationists, and capitulationists. How important is this stand at the pan-Arab level?

[Mashariqah] The Palestinian cause is the principal cause among the just causes of our pan-Arab struggle. It is the central cause of the Arab masses' struggle. The Palestinian cause is our priority in the liberation struggle. This is stressed in resolutions adopted by our great Arab Socialist Ba'th Party at both national and pan-Arab levels, as well as in directives issued by its secretary general comrade combatant, Hafiz al-Asad, president of the Republic. President al-Asad on more than one occasion has stressed that the struggle between us and the Zionist enemy is a struggle for existence and not one of borders: Either we inhabit our territory and homeland, or the Zionist enemy occupies this land at the expense of the Arab nation and Arab rights. Since this struggle is for existence, it should be given priority over other types of struggle issues. He also stressed that this struggle is a pan-Arab struggle concerning the entire Arab nation, not one country or another. This prompts the Arab nation to shoulder its full responsibility toward the Arab-Israeli conflict. Syria has adopted a firm, principled stand toward the Palestinian cause and the Arab-Israeli conflict through serious and hard work as well as through constant struggle to liberate all occupied Arab territories and restore usurped pan-Arab rights, chiefly the Palestinian people's national rights—the right to return, the right to self-determination, and the right to establish an independent state on their soil. [passage omitted]

[Kanaysi] Syria raises the banner of Arab solidarity hostile to imperialism and Zionism, since the unification of Arab efforts should be directed toward serving our fundamental pan-Arab struggle against the imperialist, Zionist enemy, not toward marginal conflicts fabricated to undermine the principal conflict and eliminate the Palestinian cause. Could you explain the concepts, dimensions, and objectives of the desired type of solidarity?

[Mashariqah] Syria spared no efforts to achieve a combative Arab solidarity that would enable the Arab nation to both confront and thwart the schemes hatched by our enemies. Such solidarity seems important, especially as we know that the imperialists and Zionists are constantly hatching plots against Arab existence, Arab territories,

and the Arab nation. In order to confront them, efforts and resources must be channeled into the trench of Arab confrontation against imperialists and Zionists, especially as our struggle against them is a pan-Arab struggle in every respect, thus requiring a unified pan-Arab stand and effective Arab solidarity; all resources must be channeled into confrontation. This is the Arab citizen's understanding of solidarity. This is what he wants, since he knows that Israel constitutes a great danger to Arab territories and that its aggressive policy extends to the Arab nation as well as to every Arab state. This is not confined to the frontline states: The attack on the Iraqi nuclear reactor and the barbaric raid by the Israeli Air Force against Tunis are further examples. Arab solidarity is not just an objective; it is solidarity for confronting imperialist and Zionist dangers threatening the Arab nation; it is a combative solidarity to unite capabilities and channel resources in order to repulse the real threats aimed at the Arab nation, rather than wasting them in fabricated marginal conflicts whose objective is to waste capabilities and resources, thus serving the interests of imperialism and Zionism as well as their schemes in the Arab region and eventually leading to the elimination of the Palestinian cause. [passage omitted]

[Kanaysi] The Syrian Arab state played and still plays a role of salvation in fraternal Lebanon which has succeeded in thwarting the imperialist, Zionist scheme. How important is this salvation stand at both Lebanese and Arab levels?

[Mashariqah] Syria's stand toward fraternal Lebanon has been a brotherly one since the Lebanese incidents erupted following the 'Ayn al-Rummanah incident on 13 April 1975. It was painful for Syria to see Lebanon suffering from difficult circumstances; it was also painful for Syria to see innocent blood being shed on Lebanese territory in ugly sectarian infighting that serves no one but the interests of the Zionist enemy, who played a fundamental role in kindling this sectarian conflict. It was also painful for Syria to see Lebanon the target of an imperialist, Zionist plot aimed at undermining its sovereignty, independence, and unity in order to fragment it into weak sectarian entities. Syria did not merely observe the sufferings of fraternal Lebanon. It launched its brotherly initiative on direct instructions from combatant President Hafiz al-Asad in order to stop innocent blood from being shed in ugly sectarian fighting. [passage omitted]

Syria will continue to play its brotherly role in fraternal Lebanon in order to rid Lebanon of the strange situation it is suffering. Syria is also backing the Lebanese national resistance in order to liberate the occupied border in the south from the filth of Zionist occupiers. Syria is sparing no efforts to preserve Lebanon's sovereignty and independence so that it can return sound and healthy to the Arab family and fully play its role among Arab brothers.

[Kanaysi] Under the historic leadership of comrade combatant Hafiz al-Asad Syria's political role has become greater at the international level and its stands on international issues have proven to be sound. Within this context leader Al-Asad's call to convene an international conference to define terrorism was accepted and commended by most states of the world. Could you explain the characteristics of this role as well as its importance in serving our nation's causes?

[Kanaysi] Under the historic, wise, and brave leadership of comrade combatant Hafiz al-Asad, the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party secretary general and president of the Republic, Syria has enjoyed a notable status at the international level as a progressive liberation force fighting to confront imperialism and Zionism in the interest of Arab causes, primarily our central cause, the Palestinian cause, as well as the causes of other peoples suffering from the dangers of imperialist and Zionist forces and their aggressive policy in other parts of the world. Syria's stands on Arab and international issues are firm and principled within various international circles. The course of events proves the correctness of these stands. They include Syria's stand on the question of terrorism and its call for convening a UN-sponsored international conference in order to define terrorism and show the differences between terrorism and the just liberation struggle maintained by the peoples to liberate their territories, preserve their sovereignty and independence, and confront imperialist and Zionist schemes aimed at their existence and identity. The objective of Syria's call for the conference is to thwart the endeavors made by imperialist and Zionist circles trying to confuse truth with falsehood and describe the just liberation struggle of our Arab masses as terrorist acts in order to prevent them from continuing their struggle and achieving their objectives. [passage omitted]

Ethiopia's Amanuel Holds Press Conference

JN252012 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1915 GMT 25 Nov 87

[Text] Damascus—Amanuel Michael, Political Bureau member of the Workers Party of Ethiopia and deputy chairman of the People's Democratic Republic of Ethiopia State Council, has praised the cultural and constructional development in Syria. He said: I visited Syria 13 years ago, but when I returned this time I found great cultural and constructional development and progress.

Amanuel spoke at a press conference in Damascus this evening which was attended by representatives of press and information in Syria. He explained the stages through which the Ethiopian revolution has passed since it began in 1974, choosing socialism as its policy. He noted that the objective of his visit to Syria is to explain the steps taken by the Ethiopian revolution. These begin with the establishment of the Republic, the formation of the People's Assembly, and the laying down of a constitution for the country. Another purpose of the visit was to benefit from Syrian experience and experiments in this regard. He added that other Ethiopian delegations are now carrying out similar missions in fraternal and friendly countries.

He said that Ethiopia has condemned the Camp David accords, which obliterate the Arab Palestinian people's rights. He affirmed that his country denounces the Israeli aggression and stands against Israel in international quarters.

Answering a question, Amanuel asserted that his country wishes to see peace and tranquillity prevailing among peoples. He supported Syria's call to convene an international conference to define the meaning of terrorism and to differentiate between terrorism and people's struggle for freedom.

Amanuel condemned the imperialist military presence in the Gulf. He said: In Ethiopia, we fought the U.S. military base in Barbara because it posed a danger to us and threatened security and existence in the region.

Concluding his press conference, Amanuel Michael thanked his excellency President Hafiz al-Asad and the Syrian leadership.

Ends Visit, Departs

JN261437 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1215 GMT 26 Nov 87

[Text] Damascus—At 1230 today, Amanuel Michael, Political Bureau member of the Workers' Party of Ethiopia and deputy chairman of the People's Democratic Republic of Ethiopia State Council, and his accompanying delegation left Damascus following a 3-day visit to the Syrian Arab Republic. Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam led those who saw him off at Damascus International Airport. A number of cabinet ministers and senior Foreign Ministry officials were also present at the sendoff.

Afghanistan

Security Forces Defuse Bomb in Kabul Theater

LD251811 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari
1600 GMT 25 Nov 87

[Text] The BIA military correspondent reports that the country's security forces have prevented a tragedy in the city of Kabul.

The report notes that individuals dependent on extremist opposition groups planted 5 kg of [word indistinct] explosives in the vicinity of the Pamir, a 14-story theater. These individuals sought to stain a number of our compatriots with blood and bring sorrow to their families over the loss of their loved ones. However, with the help of Kabul's peace-loving citizens, the enemy's satanic plan was uncovered and the explosives were defused.

The national security forces in Kabul ask that residents of the city inform them and do their patriotic duty when such situations are discovered.

'Extremists' Crushed in Khowst, Faryab

LD260919 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari
1600 GMT 25 Nov 87

[Text] An extremist opposition group that sought to wage war and spill blood in and around Khowst Province was crushed recently by the Armed Forces.

According to a BIA military correspondent, a group of extremists had been trying recently to cross the border and disrupt the peaceful lives of district residents. They were punished for their evil deeds at the hands of the Armed Forces. This action was taken at the request of local residents and the national reconciliation commission in Khowst Province. Six terrorists in the extremist groups were arrested in the course of this combat operation. In addition, two launchers for surface-to-surface missiles, three mortars, and a large number of light weapons were destroyed.

Another report notes that the Armed Forces crushed another group of extremists attempting to wage war and spill blood around the Shirin Tagab District of Faryab Province. The Armed Forces seized 11 surface-to-surface missiles and 50 anti-vehicle mines.

French Citizen Investigated for Espionage

LD261732 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto
1530 GMT 26 Nov 87

[Text] Quoting a spokesman for authorized sources, a BIA correspondent reports that investigations are continuing into the case of Alain Gullo, a French citizen who entered Afghanistan illegally. This individual was handed over to Afghan popular authorities in Faryab Province by a large opposition group that came over to the revolution.

The results of the investigation, which is nearly complete, show that Alain Gullo was collecting information which, according to the DRA Ministry of Defense, deals with Afghan state and military interests. The responsible authorities have specific evidence to prove this point.

Commentator Condemns British 'Interference'

LD252326 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto
1530 GMT 25 Nov 87

[BIA commentary]

[Text] The world press has recently revealed another treacherous and dirty plot. According to these disclosures, an English espionage network, in close collaboration with the CIA, will send some British instructors to Afghanistan to train Afghan mujahidin. It is interesting that the source which betrayed this base plan is again one connected to the imperialist countries. The source insists that a British firm, KMS, run by a former SAS officer, proposed to the CIA that small groups of special strike instructors be sent to Afghanistan to train the mujahidin in subversive reconnaissance operations.

The BIA political commentator notes that interference in the internal affairs of an independent country, Afghanistan, through the training of Afghan extremists as saboteurs, which was revealed by Simon de Bruxelles of *The Observer*, is nothing new to us. After all, the fact that the imperialist countries, including Britain, are interfering in the DRA's internal affairs has been disclosed by the Western mass media in the past.

The political observer announced long ago that in sending arms to the Afghan extremists and having them trained by foreign instructors in terrorism and subversion, Britain and the U.S. Administration act alike. The Conservative government of Margaret Thatcher follows the Reagan administration in every step of its hostile policy toward the people of Afghanistan. This is part of a policy toward the Afghan situation that the Reagan administration pursues.

Another newspaper, *The Independent*, revealed in one of its editions that the British intelligence service, MI-6, and the American intelligence agency follow a common policy against the popular sovereignty of the DRA and provide Afghan counterrevolutionaries with very modern arms, including U.S. Stinger and British Blowpipe surface-to-air missiles.

In one of its issues, this paper reported that at the end of 1985, the British intelligence service MI-6 delivered 300 Blowpipe missiles to counterrevolutionaries in Afghanistan. It has recently been revealed that 600 Blowpipes have been given to extremist bands in Afghanistan, and that efforts are being made to send them increasingly more advanced missiles.

The Thatcher government has invited Abdul Haq to stay in the country. Abdul Haq is a member of the Yunis Khalis counterrevolutionary band and a notorious criminal. He confessed his crimes in an interview in England and was received by the British prime minister. British newspapers disclosed that the first consignment of British Blowpipe missiles was sent to Afganistan a month after this visit for use against the innocent Afghan people. Now it has been revealed that British instructors are training terrorists against the DRA. They are doing so while the DRA is trying to end a fratricidal war, has proclaimed a policy of national reconciliation, and is working to find a political solution to the situation around Afghanistan.

All of the British Government's hostile measures are nothing but direct interference in Afghanistan's internal affairs, and reflect its involvement in the undeclared imperialist war against the DRA.

Acknowledgements by the British mass media prove that the British Government has taken no action to stem the flow of arms to Afghan extremists or halt their training in terrorism. On the contrary, the British Government continues to send modern air defense weapons to the terrorists and Afghan extremists, who use them against civilian targets.

Thus far, Afghan extremists have shot down six civilian passenger planes with U.S. Stingers and British Blowpipes. Hundreds of our innocent compatriots, including women and children, have been martyred, and the security of international aviation has been endangered, both in Afghanistan and in other parts of the world.

This is indisputable evidence of the British Government's interference in the DRA's internal affairs. It also proves the untruthfulness of its professed support for a political solution to the situation in Afghanistan and the region. After all, in practice, it is directly involved in the undeclared imperialist war.

The people and state of Afghanistan strongly condemn the British Government's interference in the internal affairs of their free, independent, and nonaligned country. They do so as the people of Afghanistan prepare for reconciliation and an end to the fratricide. Indeed, the people of the world also condemn the British Government's interference in the internal affairs of the DRA.

Keshtmand, USSR's Ryzhkov Exchange Telegrams

LD252248 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari
1600 GMT 25 Nov 87

[Text] Comrade N. Ryzhkov, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, has sent a telegram to Comrade Sultan 'Ali Keshtmand, member of the PDPA Central Committee Politburo and chairman of the DRA Council of Ministers. Comrade Ryzhkov sent the message while flying over the DRA on his way back to Moscow from New Delhi.

In the telegram, Comrade Ryzhkov offers his best wishes for tranquillity and victories by the DRA's Government and people.

Comrade Sultan 'Ali Keshtmand reciprocated with a message to Moscow, thanking Comrade Ryzhkov and wishing him good health. He also expressed his best wishes for further successes by the Government and people of the Soviet Union.

Bangladesh

Demonstrations, Carrying of Arms Banned in Dhaka

BK251558 Dhaka Domestic Service in English
1530 GMT 25 Nov 87

[Text] Processions, demonstrations, and carrying of arms, explosives, and all kinds of sticks have been banned in certain areas of Dhaka city for 30 days from tomorrow. The ban will be effective from 0600 in the morning to 1430 in the afternoon. The areas where this ban will be in force include Motijheel and Dilkusha commercial area, North-South Road from the Night India restaurant in the north, and Phulbaria traffic island in the south, Topkhana Road, Abdul Ghani Road, (Phoenix) Road, Banga Bandhu Avenue, Purana Paltan Road, and all other roads, lanes, and bylanes belonging to these areas.

A press release of the Dhaka metropolitan police commissioner says the step has been taken because processions, meetings, and demonstrations being organized by various political parties and alliances for the last few day are hampering the smooth working environment in government, semigovernment, autonomous bodies, and private offices in these areas.

Dhaka Universities Closed 'Until Further Orders'

BK270815 Dhaka Domestic Service in English
0110 GMT 27 Nov 87

[Text] A press release issued by the Ministry of Education says the Dhaka University and the Bangladesh University of Engineering and Technology have been closed until further orders. The closure is effective from today, the 27th of November. The press release further says the step is being taken to prevent the deterioration of the overall law and order situation in the two university areas and ensure the safety of the life of the students. The students of these two universities have been asked to vacate their halls and hostels by 1600 this afternoon.

Students To Defy Order

BK271203 Hong Kong AFP in English
1135 GMT 27 Nov 87

[Excerpts] Dhaka, Nov 27 (AFP)—Twenty-two student groups here Friday vowed to resist the government decision to close indefinitely the city's two main universities.

"The orders are illegal and uncalled for...we have decided to defy them and asked students to try to stay back in hostels," Asaduzzaman Ripon, a leader of the 22 anti-government groups, told *Agence France-Presse*.

"Everything in the campus since it reopened on November 15 after a closure for a week under a similar order is normal and there is no reason for such a new closure," said another leader, Abdur Rahman.

He alleged "government agents" had exploded bombs and tried to create excuses for the closure of the campuses.

The government said Dhaka University and the Engineering University were ordered closed Friday for the safety of students and because of the law and order situation after two weeks of violent anti-government protests.

Several hundred students Friday demonstrated outside Dhaka University's vice-chancellor's residence, then marched to the Press Club near the Government Secretariat shouting anti-government slogans.

Press reports here said the government also ordered closed from Friday one of the capital's two medical colleges, Dhaka Medical College.

Dhaka University, with 16,000 students, the Engineering University with more than 3,000 students and the medical college, with about 1,500, have long been dominated by student groups active in anti-government campaigns.

The vice-chancellor of the Engineering University declined to comment to AFP on the latest closure order. He said since the campus reopened November 15 student attendance was very low.

But Dhaka University Vice-Chancellor Abdul Mannan told AFP he had called separate emergency meetings of senior teachers and provosts and of the university Syndicate (governing body) to consider the situation.

He said the government order was "not at all necessary" as the campus situation was "quite normal".

Informed sources said Mr Mannan told teachers he wanted to keep the university open, but admitted he was not in a position to ensure student safety if the order to vacate dormitories by Friday afternoon was not carried out.

Earlier this week, press reports said he had rejected a closure order.

Witnesses said police strength had been reinforced around the university.

The government Wednesday banned for one month political gatherings in downtown Dhaka, including the university area, from 6 a.m. to 2 p.m.

The decision has been sharply criticised by the opposition, which is spearheading a continuing campaign to force the resignation of President Hussain Mohammad Ershad and his government.

The opposition has called a nationwide, 72-hour general strike from Sunday. [passage omitted]

The Syndicate of Dhaka University at an emergency meeting here Friday "deplored, protested and rejected" the government order sources close to the vice-chancellor's office told AFP.

The Syndicate includes senior government representatives and is the highest executive body of the Dhaka University, the country's highest and oldest seat of learning.

The sources said the meeting, chaired by Vice-Chancellor Abdul Mannan, passed a resolution criticising the order as direct interference in the autonomy enjoyed by the universities under the 1973 University Ordinance.

The sources, who talked on condition of anonymity, said the Syndicate decided to keep the university open and asked the provosts of hostels to ensure the safety of student residents.

Mr Mannan was not immediately available for comment.

Education Minister Mahbubur Rahman told AFP by phone Friday afternoon that the government would take the necessary measures to enforce its decision.

He rejected arguments that the order for closure was an infringement of the university's autonomy under the 1973 ordinance and said because of the law and order situation the government had the authority to intervene.

Asked if students would be forced by police to vacate hostels, he only said the order would be enforced.

Prime Minister Urges Opposition To End Strikes

BK271636 Dhaka Domestic Service in English
1530 GMT 27 Nov 87

[Text] Prime Minister Mizabur Rahman Chowdhury has urged the opposition parties to cease their program of hartal [strike], which is disrupting the national economy

and causing misery to the common man. He was addressing a rally organized by the Jatiya Party [ruling party] in Dhaka today. The prime minister said an elected government could not be changed through hartals and violence. Any change should be brought only through constitutional means. Frequent hartal calls by the opposition have proved useless and only caused untold miseries to the people, particularly the day laborers and the working classes. He urged the people to unitedly resist the opposition parties. He also asked party workers to build strong public opinion against opposition activities.

The prime minister said political differences were inevitable in any democratic system and these should always be resolved through discussions and constitutional means. He said if necessary his party would be ready to face a midterm elections. He said we believe that polls are the only way to measure public opinion and popularity. Mr Chowdhury again urged the opposition parties and alliances to come out with political programs and shun the path of hartal and anarchy.

Addressing the rally, the state minister for works, Sheikh Shaheedul Islam, termed the repeated hartal program of the opposition as a conspiracy to damage national economy and disrupt social peace. This sort of action should be resisted by all, he added.

Party Leader Cited

BK271738 Dhaka Domestic Service in English
1530 GMT 27 Nov 87

[Text] Acting General Secretary of the Jatiya Party Zafar Imam has called upon all sections of people to unitedly face the politics of anarchy and vandalism being resorted to by a section of opposition parties. He was addressing a big rally organized by the party unit of the party in Dhaka today. Mr Zafar Imam also urged the opposition to discard the path of violence which has threatened the very independence and sovereignty of the nation. The participants of the rally later marched through different streets of the city.

Opposition Holds Rallies in Dhaka, Chittagong

BK271618 Delhi Domestic Service in English
1530 GMT 27 Nov 87

[Text] In Bangladesh, opposition parties took out a procession in Dhaka city this afternoon. Earlier, addressing the rally, the Awami League and Bangladesh Nationalist Party reiterated that they will continue their struggle till the present government resigns. Similar processions were also organized in Chittagong city.

Meanwhile, authorities have closed the two main universities in Dhaka and ordered the students to vacate their hostels. The action comes 2 days ahead of an opposition-called nationwide 72-hour general strike from Sunday. The government also ordered closure of a hospital [as heard] in the city.

President Declares 'State of Emergency'

BK271742 Dhaka Domestic Service in English
1705 GMT 27 Nov 87

[Summary From Poor Reception] "The president has proclaimed a state of emergency throughout the country." The proclamation issued in Dhaka tonight says: "Whereas the president is satisfied that an emergency situation exists which threatens the internal security and economic life of Bangladesh by internal disturbances [words indistinct] by Article 141-A1 of the Constitution of the Islamic Republic of Bangladesh, the president hereby proclaims the state of emergency."

"The president by virtue of powers vested in him under Article 141-A1 of the Constitution has suspended the right to move any court for enforcement of fundamental rights enshrined in Articles 77, 31, 32, 33, 35, 37, 38, 39, 40, 42 and 43. A presidential order to this effect says all cases pending in the court for enforcement of the emergency rights shall remain suspended during the operation of the state of emergency declared today."

The government has issued prohibitive orders under the Special Powers Act. The declaration of the state of emergency, the emergency ordinance, and all subsequent orders cannot be challenged in court.

"Strikes and lockouts in mills, factories, and production establishments have been banned for a period of 2 months. Taking out processions, demonstrations, meetings—both indoor and outdoor—and taking part in processions, demonstrations, and meetings have been prohibited." Funeral processions and religious services in mosques and other places of worship are exempt.

"Curfew has been imposed in Dhaka, Chittagong, and Khulna metropolitan areas and in Nawabganj and Rajshahi cities with effect from midnight tonight. The curfew shall in remain in force till 0600 Sunday." All government offices, shops, and all other establishments are to remain closed during curfew hours in these cities. All mills, factories, and industrial establishments will be closed until 0600 Sunday. "All educational institutions shall remain closed up to 4 December."

The government issued certain regulations today, which will be known as "the Emergency Powers Regulations under the powers conferred by the Emergency Powers Ordinance 1987." The regulations have been issued to protect the country's security and maintain law and order.

AFP Reports Announcement

BK271604 Hong Kong AFP in English
1554 GMT 27 Nov 87

[Text] Dhaka, Nov 27 (AFP)—President Hussain Mohammad Ershad on Friday night declared a state of emergency in Bangladesh, an official source said.

The announcement—which gives sweeping powers to the head of state—followed waves of general strikes and demonstrations organized by the political opposition to topple the president and his government.

The state of emergency was to be formally announced on radio and television at 10 p.m. local time (1600 GMT), the source said.

Sources quoted Mr. Ershad as saying the state of emergency—made in accordance with constitutional provisions—was necessary in view of domestic unrest which threatened national security and the nation's economic life.

Under the Constitution, the president during a state of emergency has the power to suspend fundamental rights and to issue any orders deemed necessary to deal with a prevailing situation.

A state of emergency expires after 120 days, unless it has been approved by a resolution passed by Parliament.

The order issued Friday night said all rallies and processions are banned throughout Bangladesh.

Meanwhile, police said they arrested a number of leading opposition figures in a fresh swoop Friday night.

Among those detained were acting Bangladesh Nationalist Party (BNP) Chairman Mirza Golam Hafiz and senior Awami League official Zillur Rahman, who were arrested at their homes in Dhaka, police and family sources said.

Opposition sources said police raided the houses of a number of other opposition figures, including former Foreign Minister Abdus Samad Azad and Awami League General Secretary Sajeda Chowdhury, who were not at home.

Officially, 1,589 people, including opposition leaders, Sheikh Hasina Wajed of the Awami League and Begum Khaleda Zia of the BNP, have been arrested since the anti-government campaign began November 10.

At least 12 people, including a policemen, have been killed and more than 165 people injured in riots and clashes since the campaign began with a "siege" of Dhaka, according to official figures.

Unofficial reports put the count at 26 dead, 1,510 injured and 2,350 arrested.

In its latest action the opposition had called a nationwide, 72-hour general strike beginning Sunday.

The official BSS news agency announced that Mr. Ershad would address the nation on radio and television Saturday at 7 p.m. (1300 GMT). No reason was given, but political observers said he was expected to explain his decision to declare a state of emergency.

According to Article 141a (1) of the Constitution, "if the president is satisfied that a grave emergency exists in which the security or economic life of Bangladesh, or any part thereof, is threatened by war or external aggression or internal disturbance, he may issue a proclamation of emergency." The government had Wednesday banned political gatherings from 6 a.m. to 2 p.m. in downtown Dhaka for one month.

On Friday, prior to the declaration of emergency, it had closed down Dhaka University, the Engineering University and one of the capital's medical schools owing to the law and order situation.

India

USSR's Ryzhkov on Nuclear, Space Cooperation

BK251339 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1230 GMT 25 Nov 87

[Text] The Soviet prime minister, Mr Ryzhkov, left for home this afternoon after a 6-day visit to the country. Addressing a press conference in the capital earlier in the day, Mr Ryzhkov said he had substantial talks with Mr Rajiv Gandhi and other leaders. He said the new agreement signed yesterday will pave the way for bringing the peoples of the two countries closer.

Regarding the setting up of a nuclear power station in India, he said negotiations are in progress. About cooperation in outer space, Mr Ryzhkov said after a close look the Government of India has given its consent and the two countries will now work out the technical aspects.

The Soviet prime minister commended India's efforts of strengthening confidence among the Asian countries and for developing international, bilateral relations.

Replying to a number of questions, Mr Ryzhkov said his country supports the steps being taken by India to solve the ethnic problem in Sri Lanka.

CSSR's Alois Indra Praises Actions for Peace

BK251351 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1230 GMT 25 Nov 87

[Text] Czechoslovakia has hailed India's role and contribution to global peace. Addressing a press conference in New Delhi this afternoon, the chairman of the Federal Assembly of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic, Mr Alois Indra, said that India's activities within the movement of nonaligned countries and at the six-nation summit have become an influential factor in peace

efforts. He also commended the New Delhi Declaration signed last year by the prime minister, Mr Rajiv Gandhi, and the Soviet leader, Mr Gorbachev.

Trade Protocol Signed With Czechoslovakia

BK251626 Delhi Domestic Service in English
1530 GMT 25 Nov 87

[Text] India and Czechoslovakia today signed a protocol in New Delhi envisaging a trade turnover of 549 crore rupees next year. A number of new items have been identified for exports from India. Among them are earth moving equipment, plastic material, and seamless pipes. The bilateral trade plan proposes a 7-percent growth in imports and a 10-percent increase in exports over the current year.

Government Takes 'Serious View' of Gulf Attacks

BK251001 Delhi Domestic Service in English
0830 GMT 25 Nov 87

[Text] India has taken a serious view of the recent incidence of attacks on vessels in the Gulf adversely affecting the Indian trade through sea routes in the area. The minister of state for surface transport, Mr Rajesh Pilot, said in the Rajya Sabha today that the country has suffered a loss of trade worth over 9 crore rupees as a result of the situation arising out of the Iran-Iraq war.

Replying to supplementaries, the minister said one Indian national died in a recent attack by a U.S. naval ship on a fighting boat [as heard] of the United Arab Emirates. He said the government has taken up the matter with the U.S. authorities, who have expressed their regrets and ordered an investigation into the incident.

Mr Pilot said India is supporting all efforts to bring an end to the Iran-Iraq war and to ensure freedom of navigation in the international waters of the Gulf.

'Terrorists' Kill 2, Injure 3 in Punjab

BK261005 Delhi Domestic Service in English
0240 GMT 26 Nov 87

[Text] In Punjab, two persons were shot dead and four others, including three BSF [Border Security Force] personnel, seriously injured in separate incidents of terrorist activity last night. In Gurdaspur District, two persons were killed in a village under Srihargobindpur police station. In another incident in a village under the same police station, a BSF patrol party was ambushed by terrorists, resulting in serious injury to three jawans [soldiers].

262 Soldiers Killed, 927 Injured in Sri Lanka

BK260949 Delhi Domestic Service in English
0830 GMT 26 Nov 87

[Text] The Peacekeeping Force [PKF] personnel killed or wounded in Sri Lanka are entitled to liberalized pensionary awards as are applicable to war or battle casualties. Rajya Sabha was informed of this today by the minister of state for defense, Mr Shivraj Patil. The benefits include special family pension, death gratuity, family gratuity, dependent pension, war injury pension, and other financial assistance. Answering a question, the minister said 262 PKF personnel have been killed and 927 injured in the operations.

The minister of state for external affairs, Mr Natwar Singh, told the house that there are about 115,000 Sri Lankan Tamil refugees in India. Answering a question, he said about 4,600 metric tons of relief supplies have been sent to Jaffna and other parts of Sri Lanka so far.

Iran

Majlis Speaker Delivers Friday Prayers Sermon

LD271235 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian
1030 GMT 27 Nov 87

[Friday prayers sermon delivered by Majlis Speaker Hashemi-Rafsanjani at Tehran University on 27 November—recorded]

[Text] In today's Friday prayers sermons, Mr Hashemi-Rafsanjani described the importance of Mobilization Week. The imam's representative to the Supreme Defense Council referred to the unprecedented welcome given by the people to the marches and maneuvers throughout the country last week. He said: The week's events and the enthusiastic welcome given by the people to the maneuvers are great victories for the nation and the revolution, for in this psychological war with world arrogance—in which we have been engaged since the beginning of this year—we have been absolutely victorious and the United States has been defeated. Today's Friday prayers scene alone is sufficient proof to convince us that the United States is defeated. If the United States wanted to provoke a nation like this, it could not achieve it even by spending billions of dollars and through propaganda. The only alternative was for the United States to send ships to the Persian Gulf to frighten and demoralize us. The Iranian nation responded. The Americans must admit that they were defeated and were disgraced in that psychological war.

Noting the public's support, both financially and through its voluntary presence on the fronts, he said: At this stage the people have entered the arena in a wonderful way and are active. At this stage we have asked the people to volunteer. We have not reached general mobilization in terms of manpower and finances. If the financial aid and voluntary presence at the fronts fulfill our war plans, there will be no need to announce general

mobilization and to levy a wartime tax. This may happen at a later date. We now face the United States and NATO, not just the Iraqi Ba'th Party, and anything could happen.

He stressed that rumors spread by the counterrevolution about general mobilization and confiscation of public property are baseless, saying: At present we are at a voluntary stage. Thanks to public support we will not reach general mobilization for some time yet. However, if we enter that stage we will call up the reserves, which means that many people will come.

Mr Hashemi-Rafsanjani then referred to an article in a Kuwaiti paper, saying that by entering the Persian Gulf, the United States has disgraced Kuwait. He said: Kuwait expected the United States to come and fight for it in the Persian Gulf. Now that it has not fought, its voice is louder. [sentence as heard] Some Western rulers have admitted that this disgrace brought by the United States on Western and NATO countries in the Persian Gulf is unprecedented, and now their ships in the Persian Gulf do not know whether they are coming or going.

He referred to the "Nasr-8" and "Nasr-9" operations staged by the Armed Forces and the Islamic Revoution Guards Corps, saying: "Nasr-8" is our little Al-Faw in the north. The Iraqis suffered the same fate there as at Al-Faw. By deploying tanks and artillery there we made a graveyard of the strait through which the Iraqis need to pass when they stage counteroffensives. They cannot remove their dead from there. At present there is only a valley between our forces and the sector liberated by the Talabanis [Patriotic Union of Kurdistan]. However, Iraq claims that no operations have taken place. When we escort correspondents there, all will be revealed.

He said that in that operation we captured about 270 Iraqis. He referred to remarks made by 184 Iraqi POW's, saying: Many POW's, who came from 184 families, declared that there were 192 POW's and MIA's, 26 killed, 23 wounded, and 20 deserters. This shows Iraq's present internal situation.

Finally, he asked the people to prepare for a long jihad. By volunteering to go to the fronts they would enable the war officials to plan repeated and lengthy offensives. Also, by giving financial support to the fighters they would give the government the opportunity to provide more services behind the lines.

He also thanked the foreign guests at the International Congress on the Sanctity and Security of the Holy Shrines for taking part in Tehran's Friday prayers.

Report on Majlis Speaker's Mardabad Speech

LD261213 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 26 Nov 87

[Text] The maneuvers codenamed "Allegiance to the Imam" were held in Mardabad, near Karaj, this morning. A total of 1,000 mobilization battalions from the town of Karaj and the bases of Savojbolagh, Shahriar, Mardabad, Robat-e Karim, and Taleqan participated in the maneuvers. A speech was delivered by Hashemi-Rafsanjani, the imam's representative on the Supreme Defense Council. We have a report on this to which we now draw your attention:

On the first day of the Mobilization of the Oppressed Week, more than 300,000 mobilization troops from Karaj, forming 1,000 combat battalions, held the glorious "Allegiance to the Imam" maneuvers this morning, despite heavy snowfall. The maneuvers again made global arrogance nervous and the fighters stressed their determination to continue the battle and the holy defense until final victory. The mobilization troops, who were wearing headbands on which the names of the holy imams and some epic words were written, carried banner portraits of the commander in chief of the Armed Forces and other religious-political personalities of the state. They chanted such crushing slogans as "We, the mobilization forces, are prepared and we have vowed allegiance to Khomeyni," "Death to the United States," "The Persian Gulf of Iran, Reagan's grave," "Death to Saddam," and "War, war, until victory." They renewed their allegiance to the imam of the ummah, demonstrated their support for the 10-point statement of the Supreme War Support Council, and announced their readiness to sacrifice their lives for the sacred aspirations of the Islamic Revolution and to fight against global arrogance, particularly the criminal United States, in the warm blue waters of the Persian Gulf.

During these glorious maneuvers, witnessed by a large group of state and military officials along the Karaj highway near Mardabad junction, Hojjat ol-Eslam val-Moslemin Hashemi-Rafsanjani, the imam's representative on the Supreme Defense Council, addressed the participants: The glorious ceremonies created by the people of Karaj, particularly the selfless mobilization fighters in this snow and cold weather, brings feelings of respect for these honorable and selfless people. The number of people present here may be the same as at other events, but the present conditions are very similar to what our fighters endure in the battlefields. Those dear ones, who are now fighting on the frontline of the northern sector and who have given us great victories in the course of the "Nasr-8" and "Nasr-9" operations, are also fighting in snow-covered areas. We shall see other results from these victories in the future. The snow, therefore, reminds us of our youths fighting under similar climatic conditions against the blasphemous Ba'thists.

Referring to the conspiracies of global arrogance, the imam's representative on the Supreme Defense Council said: We must prepare ourselves for every circumstance. The existing circumstances and plots of the enemy make it necessary for us to employ greater financial and manpower resources. You are aware that the world bullies and mighty powers, by dispatching their warships to the vicinity of our country, are baring their teeth and

showing their claws to us. You saw that the summit of the Arab reactionary leaders in Amman gave priority to the confrontation with Iran and ignored the danger of Israel. Everywhere there is a murmur of danger arising from Islam's victory and the Islamic revolutionaries. It is natural that they will employ all their means to halt our victory and to prevent us from avenging the blood of our martyrs from 7 years of holy war. Through an extensive offensive, by great movement, by continuing our operations, and by pursuing the attack in the battlefields and with the persistant support of our warriors, we must not give them a chance to hatch plots or bring in fresh forces.

Hojjat ol-Eslam val-Moslemin Hashemi-Rafsanjani added: This maneuver and the extensive presence of the people of Karaj on this scene is unique and shows they have chosen the appropriate moment and have understood present conditions. God willing, we will witness more extensive backing of our forces in the future, particularly in Tehran Province where several of our strongest line-breaking maneuver units are stationed. Your dear sons on the front are waiting to receive fresh forces and new logistic supplies. We expect, God willing, that within the coming days every place will be saturated with waves of heroic volunteers, truckloads of supplies and popular donations, and accounts filled with the deposits for supporting the war, more from Tehran Province and particularly from the hero-nurturing region of Karaj.

Correction: Tehran on Reagan's 'Difficulties'

The following correction pertains to the item headlined "Tehran Views Reagan's Political 'Difficulties'", published in the 25 November Near East & South Asia *Daily Report*, page 45: Column one, paragraph five, sentence one reads: For instance, Reagan can go to the assistance of these people...(changing wording)

Program for Mobilization Week Detailed

LD261334 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 26 Nov 87

[Text] The program of Mobilization of the Oppressed Week of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps was announced as follows:

Thursday, 26 November. The 20 Million-Strong Army Day: Flags will be flown at all resistance bases and districts, mosques, offices, factories, schools, and universities throughout the country; 4,000 resistance bases throughout the country will be opened; the unknown martyrs will be honored by attending to the graves of martyrs throughout the country; troops of the resistance units will visit the families of fighters; and the third cultural and sports festival will begin.

Friday, 27 November. The Day of Allegiance and Disavowal: the movement of the forces of the mobilization of the oppressed toward the Friday prayers premises; visiting the wounded and crippled of the Islamic Revolution; the meeting of members of the mobilization of the oppressed with Friday and congregational prayers imams.

Saturday, 28 November. The Victories of the War and the Role of the Mobilization Troops Day: On this day there will be meetings of mobilization officials in various provinces, and various cultural and religious programs will be performed in the fighting units on the battlefronts.

Sunday, 29 November. The Day of the Women's Mobilization: There will be meetings of members of the women's mobilization in various towns and cities; a discussion on issues of the hajj, the Persian Gulf, and the mobilization; flag ceremonies will be held in various centers of the women's mobilization; religious, cultural, and military quiz games will be played; and model mobilization families will be glorified.

Monday, 30 November. The Day of Training for Military Readiness: the inauguration of the Jerusalem barracks and shooting contests between national officials throughout the country.

Tuesday, 1 December. The Day of Organizing Resistance: the holding of nationwide Khandaq [prophet's trench] maneuvers throughout the country, and the presentation of mobilization organizations through the mass media.

Wednesday, 2 December. Mobilization and Collaboration Day: the collection of people's donations through various resistance bases and districts throughout the country, and the announcement of the total of collected donations for improvements in the resistance bases.

Meanwhile, the sisters and brothers can be informed of the Mobilization Week programs by dialing telephone No 198.

More on Musavi Address to Mobilization Forces

LD252041 Tehran IRNA in English 1902 GMT 25 Nov 87

[Text] Yasuj, Bovir Ahmad va Kohkiluyeh Prov. Nov.25, IRNA—Each and every Iranian individual from the big cities to the smallest hamlet will fight till the last breath, to give a tooth-crushing response to the U.S. threat against Iran, said Prime Minister Hoseyn Musavi said here today.

Musavi, clad in military uniform was addressing 50,000 provincial combatants who formed into 25 divisions, held grand maneuvers in this southeastern province. Iranian people will not accept the ignominy of turning their backs on Islam, he stressed.

Iranian people will powerfully regain their rights by their all-out presence at the war fronts, said the prime minister noting that the current public mobilization "reveals our determination to regain our rights from the aggressor".

Commenting on the activities of international forums regarding the Iraqi-imposed war, Musavi said the Ba'thist regime should not be given a respite to reinforce. We should continue the battle relentlessly since any halt in military operations would be to the benefit of the Baghdad regime, he added.

Referring to the recently concluded Arab summit the prime minister said Arab reactionary rulers by their conciliatory gesture towards the Zionist regime "this cancerous tumor", have betrayed their sinister intentions of suppressing the rise of genuine Islam, led by Iran. The Amman summit was clear manifestation of this issue, he pointed.

The Arab reactionary heads realize the danger to their regimes if Arab Muslims turn towards genuine Islam. That's why certain Arab reactionaries are trying to form an ominous grouping against Islamic Iran, said Musavi.

He also said that Iran is the standard-bearer of Islamic struggle against the U.S. and Washington will never be friendly towards Iran as long as the Islamic Republic is fighting global arrogance.

Prime minister Musavi arrived here this morning.

Musavi on Guidelines for Financial Jihad

LD261446 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 26 Nov 87

[Text] Prime Minister Mir Hoseyn Musavi had an interview with our correspondent this morning on ways and means of the people's participation in the financial Jihad. Thanking the people for their instant response to help the war effort, he stressed: Participation in the financial jihad is by no means compulsory. People can help in any way they wish.

Prime Minister Musavi explained: Account No 55 is designed to provide for the expenses of the fighters of Islam, and it will be handled on the basis of the individual people's financial capability, as well as their feeling of religious accountability. This is what every individual will have to decide for himself. There is no need for interference by Islamic institutions, associations, societies, office management, or school authorities. Any interference in this regard is strictly forbidden and will be regarded as breaking the law.

Thanking those who, out of religious responsibility, have paid money into that account, the prime minister said: Individuals who intend to contribute to the expenses of the fighters of Islam, are advised to pay their contributions directly to account No 55 at Bank Melli.

Musavi added: Any pressure on individuals to take part in the financial jihad will be regarded as an infringement of the law. If such an offence is committed by state organs, the offenders will be sternly interrogated. The collection of contributions by employees—which must be appreciated—should on no account take place in public. Directors of state organizations must pay attention to the fact that no individual may be placed in an embarassing position with regard to participation in the financial jihad.

Velayati Interviewed on Visit to Japan

NC270758 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT 27 Nov 87

[Interview with Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati by unidentified correspondent from the Voice and Vision of the Islamic Republic of Iran upon his return to Tehran from Japan on 27 November—recorded]

[Text] [Correspondent] Mr Velayati, can you tell us about the reasons for your visit and the outcome of your talks with the Japanese officials?

[Velayati] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. Our visit was in response to an official invitation from the newly appointed Japanese foreign minister. It was a 3-day official visit similar to traditional visits that have taken place between Iran and Japan over the past 4 years. In fact, this was the first and most important major political activity of the new Japanese cabinet. In our meetings with the prime minister, the secretary-general of the ruling party, the Diet speaker—who is also the chief of the Diet's Foreign Commission—and the former foreign minister of Japan, we held useful and detailed discussions regarding bilateral relations and international issues.

The ties between Iran and Japan are very important, particularly regarding economic and commercial cooperation. Japan is our top economic partner as far as our foreign relations are concerned, whether purchasing our oil or supplying goods. My colleagues from the Foreign Ministry and Petroleum Ministry held successful talks with their Japanese counterparts.

One of the most important issues discussed this time, which had not been discussed in previous years, was the establishment of a joint Japanese-Iranian commission that will plan for regular economic and commercial exchanges between the two countries. The acting minister of MITI [Ministry of International Trade and Industry], which is in fact a combined economic, commercial, and oil ministry of Japan, will visit Iran and attend to the preliminaries of setting up the joint commission.

On the international level, our visit had special importance in view of the fact that Japan now heads the UN Security Council. We discussed in detail Iran's clear and overt stance in the United Nations and its Security

Council, as well as the appointment of an Iranian representative to continue talks with the UN secretary general. In the future, God willing, these discussions and consultations with Japanese officials regarding international issues and the United Nations will continue.

We had a brief stopover in Abu Dhabi for a change of planes on our way home, and the UAE foreign minister came to greet us. We held relatively in-depth discussions on the latest developments in the Arab world and the region.

[Correspondent] Thank you.

Tehran Cites AFP on Attack on Romanian Tanker

LD261722 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 26 Nov 87

[Text] Quoting shipping sources in the Persian Gulf, AFP reported that a Romanian tanker, the *Dacia*, was attacked this morning by a speedboat, causing a fire to break out. These sources added that the crew of the Romanian tanker were not harmed.

On the basis of this report, this is the second Romanian ship to have been attacked by speedboats this week. Last Saturday, the tanker *Fundulea* was attacked near the Strait of Hormuz.

Navy Chief on Ship Seizures; Condemns U.S.

LD252046 Tehran IRNA in English 1921 GMT 25 Nov 87

[Text] Tehran, Nov. 25, IRNA—A total of one hundred ships have been attacked in the Persian Gulf since the beginning of the current Iranian year (started March 21), chiefly due to the U.S. presence in the waterway, Navy Commander Rear Admiral Mohammad Hoseyn Malekzadegan announced here today.

Malekzadegan speaking in an interview on the eve of 'Navy Day' (Nov. 28) said the figure shows a 60 percent increase as compared with the 60 vessels which were attacked in the previous year. The number of raids on ships is likely to reach 160 if the U.S. presence continues in the region, he warned.

The commander pointed that U.S. presence has not only failed to maintain regional security, but on the contrary has further exacerbated tension and endangered navigation. However, he added this provocative presence has sharply back-fired on Washington and the reactionaries who invited it to the region.

"The U.S. presence has failed to have the least effect on us and we are calmly fulfilling our duty of keeping open the shipping lanes as well as flow of exports," said Malekzadegan.

On attempts of U.S. helicopters and warships to interfere in the interception of the Greek ship '*Jimilta*' by the Iranian naval forces last Saturday, and the subsequent denial of the clash by U.S. officials, the commander said despite meddlings by the U.S. choppers, Iranian naval forces powerfully escorted the ship to a southern port and conducted a thorough inspection.

Remarks of the Greek ship's captain, which confirmed interference by U.S. helicopters as well as unidentified radio messages asking him to ignore orders to stop by the Iranian ship, reveals that U.S. claims are "lies", he added.

Elsewhere, the commander said mine-sweeping operations continue by Iranian naval units and that major part of the international waters have been cleaned of mines. Mine-sweeping is also carried out alternatively in internal waters and supply routes, he added.

Asked how many ships' consignments have so far been seized, Malekzadegan answered that an average of 20 ships are searched daily by Iranian naval craft, and that consignment of 40 vessels has to-date been seized, since it was meant to increase the enemy's combat capabilities.

He stressed that according to international regulations Iranian forces are fully entitled to inspect ships and that any intervention in this regard by a third party is "illegal". Foreign forces have been prevented from any serious intervention by resolute measures of the Iranian naval personnel, the commander concluded.

UK Tightening Up Reflagging Legislation

LD260900 Tehran IRNA in English 0745 GMT 26 Nov 87

[Text] London, Nov. 26, IRNA—A new government scheme has been drawn up to restrict the provisional registration of British-flagged vessels to only 3 months following the reflagging of three Kuwaiti tankers.

The planned legislation entered its second stage Tuesday in London's upper House of Lords parliamentary chamber as part of a new merchant shipping act originally introduced last month.

There was a storm of protests against the government in September when it followed Washington's lead in reflagging vessels from the Kuwait Oil Tanker Company (KOTC).

At the time, the government tried to distance itself from the implications of the move by saying it was a purely commercial transaction and the re-registration of supertanker *Tonbridge* was rapidly followed by product carriers *Chilham Castle* and *Sandgate*.

The new legislation is unlikely to affect the three KOTC's vessels but under existing laws have only six months from the original registration dates to meet full safety inspections and proper certification for full registration.

Rafiqdust Stresses Continuation of War

LD260847 Tehran IRNA in English 0827 GMT 26 Nov 87

[Text] Tehran, Nov. 26, IRNA—Minister of the Islamic Revolution's Guards Corps Mohsen Rafiqdust said here Wednesday that fear of the spread of the Islamic Revolution made the reactionary Arab leaders accept the 'defamed' Egypt to their fold and give the green light to the Zionist regime, here Wednesday.

Speaking at a gathering of tens of thousands of people in downtown Tehran, Rafiqdust said that Iranian people should foil plots hatched by the world arrogance and gain victory at the imposed war.

The Islamic revolution, he said, will sustain a blow that will not be compensated if Iran backs off in the war.

Congress Continues Study of Mosque Issue

LD251419 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 25 Nov 87

[Excerpts] A Central News Unit correspondent reports on today's sessions of the four committees of the international congress to review the sanctity and security of the two holy mosques in Mecca.

[Begin unidentified correspondent recording] On the third day of the first international congress reviewing the sanctity and security of the Mosques—which is taking place in Tehran with the participation of ulema, intellectuals, and thinkers of the world of Islam from 36 countries—participants took part in the four committees of the congress. While reviewing ways to ensure the security of the mosques, they debated the bloody tragedy in holy Mecca, its far-reaching dimensions, and its effects on the emotions of the Islamic ummah. [passage omitted]

Sayyid Muhammad Husayn Fadlallah, one of the ulema and struggling clergymen of Lebanon, who is the chairman of one of the committees, gave a short speech saying: In fact, Islam's social system has provisions for every occasion. We can easily use these provisions to ensure the security of the holy mosque. However, today, unfortunately, oppressive countries are ruling over God's mosques and mercenaries, who are present in the mosques as servants and are enacting their orders and laws in the secure mosques of God. Therefore, we are dutybound to form an independent delegation and, while ensuring real security, we should prevent the domination of oppressors over the secure mosques of God.

Another speaker in one of the committees was Mohamed 'Ayub from Tunisia. He referred to Sunni books about the causes for the revelation of the Bara'at verse in the Koran and its interpretation. He concluded that this is the last verse in the Koran that stresses the need for a continual fight against infidels and blasphemers. He then mentioned the tricks of the world oppressers and the Al Sa'ud regime to mislead public opinion, and said: After the bloody incident in holy Mecca, the Saudi regime paid a sum equivalent to $20 million to different magazines and publications in an effort to divert the attention of the people of the world, especially the Islamic ummah, from the crime it had committed. This regime tried to condemn the Islamic Republic of Iran and wash their hands of this crime. In connection with the recent Arab summit conference, Mr Mohamed 'Ayub said: In the Arab summit conference, instead of drawing Egypt to the fore in the war with Israel, unfortunately and in spite of the will of the Arab ummah, most other Islamic countries sided with Egypt, thus becomeing allies of Israel. [end recording]

Our correspondent reports that Mr Ahmad 'Abd al-Rahim another participant in the congress, made a speech. Pointing out the fact that maintaining the security and sanctity of the mosques are legal issues, he said: While the security of embassy buildings and residences of ambassadors are ensured in every country, why should the Ka'bah and its pilgrims not be safe? [passage omitted]

Our correspondent reports that Mr Mohammad Owji from Turkey also made a speech and said: Saudi and American commandos who had received special training attacked the Muslims in God's secure mosque. Not only have they committed murder, but they have also misled public opinion by their false propaganda. [passage omitted]

Mr Mohammad Qorban 'Ali, head of the Islamic Research Institute in Bangladesh, in his speech said: According to international laws, no country is permitted to demolish historical and holy places, not even in times of war. However, the Saudi rulers have demolished many blessed and holy buildings that were situated in the vicinity of the mosques, in spite of the fact that ensuring the sanctity of the mosques—according to Koranic verses and sayings attributed to the prophet—is quite clear. [passage omitted]

The four committees of the congress will continue their work this afternoon.

Fadlallah on Disavowal March

NC260920 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT 26 Nov 87

[Text] The prominent Lebanese scholar, Muhammad Husayn Fadlallah, participated in a press, radio, and television interview last night at Tehran's Laleh Hotel

and answered questions by both foreign and local correspondents. Speaking on the importance of the international congress on the sanctity and security of the two holy shrines, he said: This congress marks the beginning of the struggle against the domination of the two holy shrines and is an attempt to avert another catastrophe like the bloody Friday incident in Mecca.

Referring to the politico-ideological dimensions of the international hajj congress and the staging of the disavowal march, he said: A sense of freedom and a greater awareness can be awakened in every Muslim in this way. He added: After the bloody Friday catastrophe in Mecca, there will be difficulties for Muslims in their disavowal of pagans. Nevertheless, it remains a necessary obligation. Fadlallah termed the Wahhabiism of the Al Sa'ud regime a deviation from the line of Islam. He stated that the objectives of this regime, in donning the Wahhabi mask, are to protect U.S. interests in the region, maintain control over the Islamic sites, and prevent the forging of Islamic unity. Fadlallah went on to explain how to combat Wahhabiism. From the legal, scientific, and political standpoints, as well as from the standpoint of Islamic jurisprudence, he discussed how to reach a realistic and effective solution to the administration of the two holy Mosques. He said: Some of the governments of the Islamic countries have viewed the Mecca incident on the basis of their own interests. If Muslims are able to take serious and concerted steps against the Al Sa'ud regime, it will then refrain from its criminal actions against Muslims.

He then stressed the need to strengthen the Islamic propaganda machine in order to counteract the venomous propaganda of the Al Sa'ud regime and world oppression. He said: The bloody Mecca catastrophe was the result of the Al Sa'ud regime's fear of the march of the disavowal of pagans, as well as a U.S. plot to gain a foothold in the region.

Majlis Speaker Assails Saudi Arabia

LD261248 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 26 Nov 87

[Text] On the fourth day of the international congress on the sanctity and security of the holy shrines, Hashemi-Rafsanjani, representative of the imam on the Supreme Defense Council and Majlis speaker, made a statement on the topic of establishing a joint world government, or Islam International:

Referring to the fact that Almighty God established the Ka'bah for the elevation of humanity, Hashemi-Rafsanjani said the more this objective is attained the closer humanity is to divine objectives. This is both an evolutionary and a theological objective.

He added: The Ka'bah is the focal point of all Muslims on all days and at any time which they desire. If we regard the pilgrimage rites as an important politico-religious duty in Islam, then we must remember that these rites are performed at a specific time and for a limited duration. However, every Muslim, at any possible time and at will, offers prayers toward one qiblah.

Referring to the establishment of a joint world government or Islam International, the representative of the imam on the Supreme Defense Council said: If we intend to set up such a regime, we will most definitely need a center for that regime. With regard to the background of holy Mecca, we can say that Mecca is at least a geographical and a spiritual center of Islam, if not a political center.

Hashemi-Rafsanjani continued: Now we are in need of such a center—a place which can serve as a haven for Muslims to visit and to seek solutions for their problems.

If the Islamic ulema had unanimously agreed on the need for such a center, most definitely it would have been set up. To be fair, is it Islamic not to have a place in which 1 billion Muslims of the world can express their views? It seems that the ideal would be something in the nature of Islam International, in holy Mecca.

Hashemi-Rafsanjani added: I believe that a special conference, with this specific task and attended by Islamic ulema, thinkers, and jurisconsults from any class who are able to offer different views, must be set up. In such an assembly, all the talent of Islam—now existing in the land of the infidel at the service of colonialism—can be utilized for the attainment of Islamic objectives.

Referring to existing conditions in Mecca and to its rulers, Hashemi-Rafsanjani added: In the existing conditions in which they are subject to un-Islamic impositions, can the rulers of the House of Al Sa'ud accept such a grave duty? The pilgrimage ceremonies today do not signify Islamic justice. Referring to the duty of Islamic governments to set up Islam International, he said: The Islamic Republic of Iran today has the ability to stand by this proposal and to face any resulting difficulties. We are ready to fight to achieve our aspirations. If the Islamic world and the ulema intend to adopt such a decision, we are ready to fight, under any conditions, for the liberation of Mecca and establishment of Islam International. If we are resisting Iraq so fiercely, it is because of this motivation. We intend to liberate the Muslims of Iraq, now that they are under colonialism and tyranny.

Hashemi-Rafsanjani continued: The Saudis lit the match in the Ka'bah; they resorted to massacre and turned against us. You saw that just as the problem was beginning to become serious, Saudi Arabia martyred 400 pilgrims—the guests of God—for the sake of the interests of the United States, and when we turned against U.S. interests, the Saudis confronted us.

Addressing those present, he continued: Therefore, we must not expect serious benefit from the pilgrimage—whether it is an ordinary pilgrimage or an omrah pilgrimage—because of the way the holy shrines are administered. One does not derive serious benefit there now. Moreover, the manner of prayer there is not effective and constructive for Islam. Neither the act nor the prayers is Islamic.

Concluding, he referred to the fact that the pilgrimage to Mecca means for us the performance of a duty; we are dutybound to go on pilgrimage. He then said: They have robbed the Mecca pilgrimage of its characteristics, and it is not even secure. A competent government must be set up in Arabia. Then Mecca will not have to be separated from Arabia and then it will have to be administered by a council. We even suggest that Arabia itself should pioneer this. We will help to draft a constitution for the administration of Mecca.

'Saudi Spy' Arrested; Confesses to Massacre

LD261450 Tehran IRNA in English 1443 GMT 26 Nov 87

[Text] Tehran, Nov. 26, IRNA—The Information Ministry personnel have arrested a Saudi spy upon his arrival in the Islamic Republic of Iran.

The spy who had been summoned to Hijaz [Saudi Arabia] by the Saudi Regime during the hajj ceremony this year, confessed that he had personally received orders from Saudi rulers and security officials including Interior Minister Nayif ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz to act against the Islamic Republic of Iran as well as Iranian hajj pilgrims.

The ministry said, the spy in his confession disclosed important facts about the pre-planned massacre by the Saudi rulers, and Fahd's personal orders for opening fire at the peaceful pilgrim rally.

According to the confession the spy had been informed in advance by Saudi officials on the plan for massacring hajj pilgrims during the "antipathy towards pagans" rally in Mecca on 31 July.

The ministry which has withheld the name and nationality of the spy, announced that more information would be publicized after necessary investigations.

Chief Justice Says Arab Summit 'Catastrophic'

LD231850 Tehran IRNA in English 1758 GMT 23 Nov 87

[Text] Rasht, Gilan Province, Nov. 23, IRNA—Chief Justice Ayatollah Abdulkarim Musavi-Ardabili describing the outcome of the Amman Arab summit as "catastrophic", here today castigated Arab reactionaries for their de-facto alliance with the regime occupying holy Qods.

The chief justice said that the Amman summit was convened upon the orders of Reagan and its outcome was exactly what the Zionist regime expected. He also termed the Amman summit "the worst disgrace" for heads of reactionary Arab regimes.

Ayatollah Musavi-Ardabili, here to inspect the grand maneuvers staged by 200,000 volunteers from throughout this Caspian Sea province, criticized international bodies for their silence over fresh Iraqi aggressions on Iran, such as the repeated attacks on non-military and industrial centers of the Islamic Republic.

Later, the chief justice in a meeting with local theologians, said the world should know the Islamic Republic will never back away from its revolutionary principles, even in return for the greatest concessions.

25 Nov Cabinet Ministers' Meeting Detailed

LD261008 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 25 Nov 87

[Excerpts] The Cabinet met this morning to discuss domestic and foreign events. Minister of Planning and Budget Zanjani submitted a report to the Cabinet on the progress on the country's development projects in the year ending 21 March 21 1987.

The report notes that the total number of projects under construction is 18,281, of which 2,206 are new projects. The report also notes that the following provinces have carried out the highest number of projects, bringing them to the working stage: Azarbayjan-e Khavari with 865 projects, Kerman with 503 projects, and Khorasan with 407 projects.

With regard to urban projects, the highest number of projects—26 percent of the total number—relate to the general educational sector which has 53 percent of the funds allocated to this sector and 15.3 percent of the total funds.

As for rural projects, the highest number of projects—47 percent of the total—relate to the agricultural and natural [as heard] industries which have 91 percent of the total credits allocated to this sector and 30 percent of the total credits for rural areas. In the rural areas, next to agriculture, the health and medical care sector with 13.4 percent, and the general education sector with 13.1 percent respectively, are reported to have the greatest number of projects. Agriculture Minizter Zali, who recently led a delegation to Italy to participate in the 24th meeting of the Food and Agriculture Organization, submitted a report on the meeting and the topics discussed there. These included food materials in the year 2000, the campaign against plant diseases, seed improvement, the importance of forests and natural industries, as well as the role of women in agriculture. [passage omitted]

According to our correspondent's report, Minister of Mines and Metals Ayatollahi, who visited Thailand to participate in the UNIDO meeting, submitted a report on his trip and on the policy the delegation of the Islamic Republic of Iran adopted at the meeting. [passage omitted]

The same report states that the readiness of employees of the State Organization for Administrative Affairs and Employment to go to the battle front and the participation of 200 of these employees in the financial jihad by paying the cost of 50 fighters, totalling 10 million rials, was announced to the Cabinet. The Cabinet appreciated these efforts.

Tehran Lists Ineligible Majlis Candidates

LD261405 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 26 Nov 87

[Text] The names of 196 electoral constituencies for the third round of elections to the Islamic Consultative Assembly have been announced by the Ministry of the Interior.

According to the ministry statement, candidates for the third round of elections to the Islamic Consultative Assembly will begin to register on 9 March, 1988.

In accordance with Article 31, the following are not permitted to run as candidates either in their respective areas of service or nationally unless they have resigned from their position at least 2 months prior to the registration of their candidacy: The president of the Republic and his councillors, the prime minister, cabinet ministers and their deputies and advisers, members of the Council of Guardians, members of the Supreme Judiciary Council, the president of the Administrative Tribunal, the president of the State General Inspectorate, active personnel of the Armed Forces throughout the country, permanent Friday prayer leaders, public prosecutors and their assistants, judges, governors general and their deputies and advisers, directors general and supervisors of directorates general, governors, district commissioners, supervisors of Islamic information offices, as well as the construction crusade, and the directors of the Voice of Vision of the Islamic Republic of Iran. For the honorable Friday prayer leaders, this period has been set at a minimum of 3 months and will expire 10 December 1987.

IAEA Response on Bushehr Called 'Mockery'

LD261743 Tehran IRNA in English 1727 GMT 26 Nov 87

[Text] Tehran, Nov. 26, IRNA—The indifferent response of the Vienna-based International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) towards the recent Iraqi bombardment of the Bushehr nuclear power plant, was termed a "tacit approval" of the Iraqi crime, by Deputy Prime Minister Reza Amrollahi in his cable to IAEA head Dr. Hans Blix, here today.

Amrollahi, who heads the Atomic Energy Organisation of Iran (AEOI), expressed deep dismay that IAEA was trying to evade this grave issue by resorting to "time consuming and ineffective correspondence instead of rapid and productive measures befitting the emergency situation."

After the initial Iraqi raid on the Bushehr nuclear power plant on Nov. 17, Amrollahi had sent an urgent cable to IAEA, urging it to take effective steps to prevent further attacks, which he said may result in dangerous radioactive leak. This was followed by another cable when Iraqi warplanes again raided the plant several hours later the same day.

Terming the IAEA reply as "defeat of the entire objective of Resolutions 407, 409 and 444 of the agency", which explicitly ban attacks on nuclear installations, Amrollahi said that it will only encourage the aggressor.

Amrollahi's cable to Dr. Blix added "the recent Iraqi attacks make a mockery of the agency's statute and all relevant resolutions, undermining the credibility of this international forum."

"You can be sure sir", he continued, "this unfortunate state of affairs will not escape the attention of non-aligned and impartial member states and shall be to the detriment of the agency, by rendering its apparatus and objectives questionable."

The Islamic Republic has learned through bitter experience that the issue will not prompt the agency to endorse effective measures, remarked Amrollahi adding, "however we feel duty-bound to present our viewpoints for the records and for the benefit of other member states who may have illusions about the agency."

It is recalled that IAEA instead of resorting to action following Iran's complaint to despatch an expert probe team, had vaguely replied, "the nuclear material stored at the site could not create a significant radiological hazard."

Combat Operations Against Iraq Continue

Communique No 3,031

LD251603 Tehran IRNA in English 1553 GMT 25 Nov 87

[Text] Tehran, Nov. 25, IRNA—Iranian jet fighters heavily bombed a supply bridge and a logistical route in Al-'Amarah city in eastern Iraq at 08:20 hours local time (04:50 GMT) Wednesday, inflicting heavy losses on the enemy and returning safely to bases, said a military communique here today.

The 3031st Joint Staff communique said that in continuation of the Nasr-9 operations around Hajj 'Umran, northeastern Iraq, Iranian ground forces killed or wounded another group of enemy soldiers capturing several others, Tuesday.

Eighteen Iraqi vehicles, a tank, three machine-guns and several gun emplacements were destroyed in the crushed counteroffensives.

Exchange of artillery fire continued throughout the battlefields Tuesday, raging somewhat more heavily in Maymak, Mehran, Nahr 'Anbar, Eynkhosh, Yebis, Chazabeh, Talaiyeh and Zayd, western and southern sectors, where Iraqi troops sustained considerable losses in men and equipment.

Iranian Gendarmerie forces shelled Iraqi positions in parts of the southern and western fronts Tuesday, killing or wounding a number of enemy soldiers and setting ablaze 10 emplacements of light and heavy weapons of theirs.

In the Strait of Hormuz, Iranian naval gunboats intercepted and searched 13 cargo ships and oil tankers Tuesday but allowed them to continue voyage after making certain there was no Iraqi-bound cargo aboard them, concluded the communique.

Saddam's Forces Level Iraqi Town

LD260929 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0230 GMT 26 Nov 87

[Text] According to the Central News Unit, Saddam's regime, which is faced with the widespread struggles of the Iraqi people in the north, last Friday in its latest moves bombed the town of (Shiman), 15 kms from the town of Kirkuk. The military forces of Saddam's regime executed 200 of the town people who had resisted being forcefully evacuated from their homes. Saddam's forces, after evacuating that town, which had a population of 5,000, leveled all of its installations to the ground.

Jets Bomb Southern Iraq

LD260949 Tehran IRNA in English 0920 GMT 26 Nov 87

[Text] Tehran, Nov. 26, IRNA—Iranian jet fighters heavily bombarded Iraqi troop concentration sites in Zobeydah war theater, southern sector, twice Thursday, inflicting substantial casualties and losses on enemy forces, said a Joint Staff communique here today.

The communique said that the fighters returned safely to bases after successfully carrying out their missions at 08:05 and 10:23 hours local time (04:35 and 06:53 GMT).

Dahuk Electricity Centers Destroyed

LD261116 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 26 Nov 87

[Text] In the wake of destruction of several pylons that transmit high voltage electricity in Dahuk Province, Iraq, the cities of Al-'Amadiyah, (Dilluk), and Shaqlawah are facing total darkness.

According to Ramadan Headquarters, the center for irregular operations of the Ground Forces of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps, in continuation of the victorious "Zafar-4" operations, the [illegible]ngers of the independent 6th Martyrdom Battalion of the IRGC Ground Forces, with the cooperation of the Iraqi Kurdish Democratic Party (KDP) forces, carried out a destructive operation during the past few days. They completely destroyed 11 electricity pylons and two communication lines of the enemy in Dahuk Province, between Dahuk and Al-'Amadiyah. Following this operation, the Zionist enemy suffered heavy losses and casualties and loss of power to the cities of Al-'Amadiyah, (Dilluk), and Shaqlawah and several military townships of the region was cut off.

Communique No 3,032

LD261634 Tehran IRNA in English 1625 GMT 26 Nov 87

[Text] Tehran, Nov. 26, IRNA—Iraqi troops concentration sites on Zobeydah Heights were heavily pounded by Iranian jet fighters at 08:05 and 10:23 hours local time (04:35 and 06:53 GMT) today. All planes returned safely to bases after inflicting heavy casualties and losses on the enemy troops. The 3032nd Joint Staff communique reported here today.

Iranian naval forces intercepted and searched eight cargo ships and tankers in the Strait of Hormuz Wednesday. The vessels were allowed to sail on since they did not carry any suspicious cargo.

Over 15 Iraqi gun emplacements, two anti-aircraft positions, three military vehicles and two munitions depots were destroyed and a number of enemy troops were killed as their positions in the southern fronts were shelled by Iranian gendarmerie forces.

Muslim combatants suppressed movement of an Iraqi patrol unit in operational theaters opposite Marivan, forcing it to flee from the region. Enemy troops also sustained some casualties in the region by Iranian combatants who also silenced Iraqi tank fire in Panjwin region.

Exchange of artillery fire continued in the western fronts Wednesday while Muslim forces successfully carried out their patrol missions in the region, returning safely to bases.

Iraqi troops shelled Zayd village of Piranshahr, west Azarbayjan province Wednesday morning, inflicting some damage and injuring some villagers.

Iraqi Counterattack Fails

LD261757 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 26 Nov 87

[Text] In the wake of the victorious "Nasr-8" operations which liberated the important (Gerderash) heights, the forces of the Zionist enemy last night launched a counterattack there in another desperate move. However, thanks to the steadfastness of the brave warriors of the corps of Islam, the enemy forces were forced to retreat to their defensive positions, leaving behind their dead and wounded. Our correspondent in Ilam has sent the following report in this connection:

Following the victorious "Nasr-8" operations of the past few days by the fighters of Islam near the liberated town of Mawat, which resulted in the liberation of the strategically important (Gerderash) heights, the Iraqi Ba'thist-Zionist enemy regrouped its defeated forces in the region last night, and with the support of armored units and artillery fire, resorted to a desperate move. However, thanks to the vigilance of the warriors of Islam and their accurate and intense fire, this move was crushed within the first few hours and our forces set ablaze a number of enemy tanks. In the course of this move, the forces of the feeble enemy, which are incapable of facing the fighters of the monotheistic army, left behind some dead and wounded when they fled the area and returned to their defense lines.

With God's help the fighters of the monotheistic army are now consolidating the positions they captured in the "Nasr-8" operations and with ever-increasing vigilance are monitoring the movements of the defeated enemy. There is no assistance but from Almighty God. [Koranic verse]

From Ilam, "Nasr-8" operational theater.

Air Force Bombs Iraqi Positions

LD271055 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 27 Nov 87

[Text] According to a report from the Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran, at 1028 today Iranian Air Force fighter-bombers bombed the positions and troop concentration points of the Iraqi regime in the Al-'Amarah sector. After inflicting heavy losses and casualties on the enemy, all our brave pilots returned safely to base.

Pakistan

President on Soviet Destabilization Program

BK241436 Islamabad THE MUSLIM in English 18 Nov 87 p 1

[Excerpt] Wana, Nov. 17—President Ziaul Haq today called upon the people to fully support the government to strengthen national unity by foiling the attempt of the enemy agents to create law and order situation in Pakistan through bomb blasts.

The President who was addressing a tribal jirgah at the headquarters of South Waziristan agency said that some Pakistanis who were playing in enemy's hands were instrumental in bomb blasts in different parts of the country and were doing so on the behest of the Soviet Union which had failed to achieve its objective of defeating the Afghan Mujahidin in the battle field.

He said the Russians who invaded Afghanistan eight years ago have not been able to defeat the valiant Afghans who were fighting for Islam and their freedom. He said having failed to achieve any success in Afghanistan the Russians were trying to destabilise Pakistan through bomb blasts. These subversive activities were being carried on by some misguided Pakistanis.

He said the bomb blasts had made some people in Pakistan to believe that Pakistan's policy on Afghanistan was wrong and that Pakistan should abandon it and have direct talks with the puppet regime in Afghanistan.

Pakistan, he said, was pursuing a correct policy and had taken a principled stand on Afghanistan which had the overwhelming support of the world community. This stand had been endorsed by 123 members of the United Nations during voting on Pakistan's resolution in the U.N. General Assembly recently.

President Zia said the enemy of Pakistan wanted to create a wrong impression in the minds of the people of Pakistan in order to divert their attention and solid support to the Afghan people. The people of Pakistan particularly of the NWFP including the brave tribes of South Waziristan agency have looked after their Afghan brethren for the last eight years in true Islamic spirit of hospitality and brotherhood. In this way God Almighty put them to trial.

A Muslim nation was sometime made to face such a test. He said the tribesmen have provided generous help to their uprooted Afghan brethren setting a noble example of Islamic hospitality. He was confident that they would continue to do so in future and would not waver in their resolve even for a while.

He said there was a hope for a solution of the Afghanistan issue as the Soviet leaders had expressed a desire to pull out their troops from Afghanistan in the near future. Pakistan, he said believe them and hoped that they

would keep their promise and leave Afghanistan allowing the refugees to return to their homes with respect and honour and also giving a chance to the people of Afghanistan to decide their future and form their own government.

Pakistan, he said wanted a peaceful policy settlement of the issue. For this he said, the entire Pakistani nation in general and tribesmen in particular had to remain on guard to thwart attempts of the enemy to force Pakistan to give up its stand on Afghanistan.

The President told tribal chiefs that the Soviet Union while obviously trying to leave Afghanistan wanted to ensure that the system it was trying to establish in that Islamic country was accepted by the people. He said if they succeeded in sowing germs of socialism in Afghanistan it would lead to a very dangerous situation both for Afghanistan and Pakistan. He said Pakistan wanted to see Afghanistan become an independent Islamic state to safeguard our own independence and security. It was in that context that the people of Pakistan prayed for the success of Afghan Mujahidin in their war of freedom and would continue to provide shelter to them. "It is our Islamic duty to support our Muslim brethren who have been forced to foresake their homes and have taken shelter in Pakistan and also pray for the success of Mujahidin who are waging a jihad," he said.

President Zia said the entire nation had to bear the brunt of sabotage activities in almost all parts of the country. This "is a dangerous situation which we have to face with courage and fortitude in order to preserve our hard earned freedom and make Pakistan strong and stable," he said. [passage omitted]

Government Calls Afghan Tribal Assembly 'Farce'

BK261301 Hong Kong AFP in English
1225 GMT 26 Nov 87

[Text] Islamabad, Nov 26 (AFP)—Pakistan on Thursday rejected as a farce an assembly of Afghan tribesmen convened by the Kabul regime later this week to approve a new constitution and elect a state president.

The meeting of the Loya Jirgah (Grand Assembly) due to open Sunday and expected to name current Afghan leader Najibullah as president under the new constitution "will have no credibility or relevance in the context of the efforts to achieve a solution to the Afghan problem," a Foreign Office spokesman said.

"Installed by foreign occupation, the Kabul regime is a pariah in the eyes of the Afghan people who for the last eight years waged a heroic struggle against foreign occupation and its henchmen," he added.

"No assembly convened by this regime can be anything but a farce," he said.

The Kabul authorities have described the assembly as an "historic occasion in deciding the nation's destiny" and have invited a number of Pakistani opposition leaders to attend.

The Islamabad government had not restricted travel by political personalities, the Foreign Office spokesman said.